

THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION

VOL. XXX.—NEW SERIES, No. 1307.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1870.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED..... 5d.
STAMPED 5d.

CONTENTS.

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS:	Court, Official, and Personal News	1166
The Mackonochie Judgment	Postscript	1167
Ecclesiastical Notes	Moab and the Desert	1167
The Liberation Society	LEADING ARTICLES:	
Are National Establishments Injurious to Religion	Summary	1168
Mr. Leatham, M.P., on Disestablishment	England and the Eastern Question	1168
Another Trial for Heresy in Scotland	The Russian Bugbear	1169
Religious and Denominational News	The London School Board	1169
CORRESPONDENCE:	The Progress of London	1170
Modern Methods of Persecution by the Godly	THE WAR:	
A Plea for Rate-Aided Schools and School Boards	Great Sorties from Paris	1171
Prussia and the War	Defeat of the Loire Army—Surrender of Orleans and Rouen	1171
The London School Board Election	Notes and Incidents	1171
The Eastern Question	Extracts from Correspondence	1172
Foreign and Colonial	LITERATURE:	
Foreign Miscellany	The Miracles of our Lord	1173
	Iona and St. Columba	1173
	Brief Notices	1144
	Gift Books for the Young	1174
	Illustrated Books	1175

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE MACKONOCHE JUDGMENT.

ONE of the several ecclesiastical causes which have been for some time past awaiting settlement at the hands of the secular authorities has been now decided, and in a way that has given no small satisfaction to one of the sections of the Establishment, and equal surprise and discouragement to that other section which is at the extreme opposite of religious belief.

Although the matter in dispute was in appearance trifling, almost to puerility, it involved a question of the utmost gravity, not only to the Church of England, but to the Protestant Christianity of the whole kingdom. How high a clergyman may raise the "elements" used in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, and how low he may bend in the prayer of consecration without infringing the rubrics, is in itself a thing which we should be inclined to think too trivial to be worth serious discussion—utterly unworthy to consume the time and thought of the highest legal functionaries of the State. Let people who have nothing better to do, or no power of doing any worthier thing, amuse themselves with these infinitesimal questions, which are nothing but a scandal to religion, we should be disposed to say. But it is, of course, impossible to ignore the fact that these childish acts have, in this instance, a spiritual and ecclesiastical importance which it is impossible to exaggerate. The adoption of these practices by Mr. Mackonochie and the party to which he belongs, is the outward and visible expression of a creed which for three centuries has been regarded as Romanist, in opposition to Protestant. The question of vestments and genuflexions, and the like, that was so keenly agitated in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, derived all its importance from the fact that these unimportant matters were the badges of Catholic and Protestant, and, by their adoption or rejection, indicated the belief, or the disavowal, of the doctrine of the Real Presence, with all its associated doctrines. The revival of these things in our own day is simply the sign that a certain portion of the Established Church wishes to believe and to prove, if possible, that that Church which has always been supposed to be Protestant in its character, is not so, but that its formularies allow of the adoption of practices which imply the Romanist

doctrine, and that they therefore allow of the holding of the doctrine itself. The decision, therefore, of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council, although it only touched the trivial points of elevating the paten, and bowing the body, did really touch the vital question of what the doctrinal complexion of the Church of England is.

Our readers will remember, doubtless, that a former decision against Mr. Mackonochie directed him "to abstain in future from the elevation of the cup and paten during the administration of the Holy Communion, and from kneeling or prostrating himself," &c. For this prohibition there can be but one possible ground, namely—that the doctrine of the Church of England is against the doctrine of the "Real Presence." Consequently, any act of devotion or reverence which would imply belief in that doctrine is illegal.

In such a case two courses are open to a clergyman in the position of the Incumbent of St. Alban's. The first is, to conform his belief and correspondent practice to what the law says is the doctrine of the Church; the other, to retain his belief and forsake the Church which does not allow its ministers to hold and teach heretical doctrine. Unfortunately, however, for the Church, and for Christianity itself, there is an opinion very prevalent among all sections of the Church, that it is so "comprehensive" an institution, that as long as any clergyman outwardly conforms to what the law may from time to time declare to be allowable in outward forms, he may hold and teach what doctrines he likes. Not that either the Evangelicals or the Ritualists would endorse the principle in words. But whenever the law declares either side to be wrong, this is the principle on which each side justifies itself for a literal conformity with legal precept, while still holding the same creed as before.

It would not have seemed a very unnatural thing for Mr. Mackonochie to have said to himself, after the former judgment, "The Supreme Judicial Court of the Church have decided against certain things which imply the doctrine of the Real Presence, and have therefore virtually decided that that doctrine is not the doctrine of the Church of which I am a minister. I hold my place in that Church in virtue of my having declared my 'unfeigned assent and consent' to the doctrines and formularies of that Church. I may think the Judicial Committee of Privy Council wrong in their interpretation of the articles of religion. But I am not to be the judge of this. The law is above me, and decides against me. I can no longer honestly remain in a Church with whose doctrine on a most vital point I utterly disagree."

Whether or no Mr. Mackonochie did hold this argument with himself, and had any struggle with himself as to the course he should pursue, we cannot say. It is certain that he saw and chose another, and a middle course. He would comply, or endeavour to comply, with the letter of the law, and altogether ignore its spirit. He would only lift the wafer and not the paten on which it was laid. He would raise the cup only a little way, instead of elevating it, in full Papal fashion, above his head. He would bend his knee as much as he could without touching the ground, and so evade the charge of actually kneeling before the consecrated elements. Thus he hoped he could escape all the penal conse-

quences of breaking the laws of the Church, and yet express and teach the same heresy as before.

Now, if such a thing as this were to be done in respect of other and commoner matters, the world would readily find terms by which to characterise it. If a child were to yield only such a compliance with parental demands, it would be deemed an aggravation of the offence. If a public officer in any of the secular departments of the State should be guilty of such an evasion of the commands of his superiors, he would be instantly dismissed. If a man yield only such an obedience to the will of God, Mr. Mackonochie himself would, we hope, tell him that it was of no avail as righteousness. How, then, can he satisfy himself that he is doing what is right in thus himself evading the spirit of the law?

Mr. Mackonochie tried to sail very close to the wind—so close, indeed, that now and then, inadvertently, he caught it on the wrong side. There were watchful eyes at St. Alban's. In trying to kneel, and yet not to kneel, his knee "may have once or twice touched the ground," in trying to adore, and yet not adore, his forehead "may have touched the table." This was enough to bring him once again under the monition of the law. He is now distinctly told that the twenty-eighth Article of his Church forbids him to do, in any wise, that which he has persisted in doing, and he is, in consequence, prohibited for three months from officiating in the Church.

And what does the Romanising party say to this final decision against them on a cardinal point of their creed? Manfully confess that there is no place for them in the Church of England, and that they must free themselves for ever from such shameful bondage? Not a bit of it! They whine and chafe and fume at being subject to secular authority in spiritual things. In the same breath they complain of the Archbishop of York for allowing himself to sit at the Council. They are like children who, if not allowed to have their own way in every particular, will cry and pout and sulk.

Is there no more manly and religious and honourable course? Why not free themselves to-morrow from the galling bondage of the State, and form themselves into the nucleus of an Anglican Catholic Church? The State trammels are not so old that they need reverse them as parts of that antiquity which is so dear to them. Three centuries ago they were not. Why submit to them any longer? Anyhow, now that the decision is against them once more, the Christian conscience of England will expect of them either an honest compliance with the spirit of the law, or a renunciation of their position in a Church of which they are members but in name.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

We again devote all the space that we can afford—wishing that we could afford more—to the proceedings of the Liberation party, in anticipation of the motion for the disestablishment of the Episcopalian Church. At Leicester, it will be seen, Mr. Mackennal has made considerable use of Mr. Gladstone's writings in this direction. But the question may, as it should, be treated in all sorts of ways. Mr. Macfadyen has taken an original and effective line at Ashton in viewing the Establishment as a selfish Church, while the Rev. Marmaduke Miller has been no less effective in reviewing the present

state of the question. We observe that a controversy is going on in Torquay *apropos* of a recent Church Defence meeting, in which clergymen and other Churchmen are abjuring the defenders. At a remarkable meeting, attended by Mr. Carvell Williams, at Derby, a prominent Churchman of the neighbourhood came forward to join the ranks. We give the substance of this gentleman's speech. At Nottingham another Conference has been held, when, we are glad to notice, the claims of the country villages were put forward. The Leicester friends have resolved to take these districts in hand themselves—which is the best thing that can be done.

A refusal to read the Burial Service at a village near Tavistock has created some excitement in that neighbourhood. It appears that the remains of Mr. John Horswill, a well-known inhabitant of the parish of Buckland, was buried in the parish churchyard on Wednesday. It was expected that the vicar would conduct the service, but he declined to do so on the ground that there was no satisfactory evidence that the deceased had been baptised. Says the *Tavistock Journal*:—"All importunity on the part of the friends of the deceased was in vain; there was no impression to be made on the sensibilities, with the Ecclesiastical Law as armour, and the body was lowered into the grave without rite or ceremony. The feelings of the friends who attended may be easily imagined at such a superstitious display being evidenced, and if anything is to cause the overthrow of the Establishment, it is by the enforcing of such obsolete usages as are only worthy of a barbarous age and people." A spectator of the scene describes his sensations as he saw his friend "buried as a criminal or a dog"—his friend who had "died in the full assurance of his acceptance with God." Yet, notwithstanding the feeling which has been excited against the vicar, his conduct was legally right. It is described as "a display of bigotry which is a disgrace to this enlightened age"; as "intolerant," and as unjustifiable"; but these phrases should be used, not for the man, but for the law which he obeys, and the Church of which he is a member.

Another specimen of intolerance is sent to us from Dover. We find, in the *Dover Express* of last Friday, a correspondence between the Rev. Hugh P. Hughes, Wesleyan minister, and the Rev. R. A. Corbett, assistant curate of St. Peter's, Charlton. It appears that the curate had visited a young man, named Edward Nye, and being informed that he was a Wesleyan, told him that God had appointed three orders of clergy, bishops, priests, and deacons, which orders existed in every true section of the Church. Then he visited a Mrs. Pain and remonstrated with her for attending a Methodist Chapel, and, on Mrs. Pain expressing her determination to continue her attendance, told her that, such being the case, she was "damned." Mr. Hughes, her minister, upon this, wrote to the curate asking for an explanation, and received the following delightful reply:—

Sir,—Allow me to acknowledge your note of the 26th inst. I am utterly at a loss to know by what authority you, as a layman and non-parishioner (*sic*) venture to call in question any ministerial act of mine; and I must therefore ask you clearly to understand that this communication is in no way to be received as "that explanation which you venture to expect."

Yours, &c.,
R. ALFRED CORBETT, B.A.,
Assistant-Curate of SS. Peter and Paul, Charlton.
H. P. Hughes, Esq., November 26th, 1870.

The "Esq." in this case is capital, and we hope Mr. Hughes enjoyed it. The local journal which prints the correspondence remarks upon the assumption of this young curate. It says:—

This is an amusing little trait of clerical assumption almost feminine in its refinement, and seems half to justify that division of the sexes into "men, women, and curates," some modern and irreverent philosopher claims to have discovered. We are bound to add that nothing less could be expected from a gentleman who, as it is alleged, tells one of his parishioners that she is "damned" because she does no worship in the parish church; for, if the parish church be the only true church, then are its ministers the only divinely-appointed ministers.

There need be no fear now of the growth of Free Church principles in Tavistock and Charlton, and the Liberation Society may leave these places at least out of their future programme. The clergy may be trusted to do all the work that is needful to be done.

We have before us a remarkably interesting pamphlet from the pen of Dr. Steane, entitled the "Evangelical Alliance and Religious Liberty." It is an appeal on behalf of the Lutherans of the Baltic provinces of Russia against their persecution by the Greek Church of that empire, and which has been prepared and published under the direction of the Council of the British Organisation of the Alliance. Dr. Steane tells us what are the principles of the Evangelical Alliance with respect to religious liberty. He says that they are essentially just and

Christian, and that they are based "not upon political, but exclusively upon religious grounds." He says that "it stands altogether upon the terrain of the Gospel. The golden maxim of Christianity is its guiding star. It asks that human governments, as well as individual men, should respect the law of the Saviour of mankind. While they profess to be Christian governments, and neither Atheistic nor Pagan, they are under an obligation, both voluntary and sacred, to acknowledge the binding power of the great ethical principle of Christianity, 'Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.'" Then we are informed that political rectitude can never consist with moral injustice, but that notwithstanding, the members of the Alliance neither invoke political ideas nor strive "to rouse a political spirit," and that "from all such auxiliaries they designedly stand aloof." And so on. Half of this, of course, is nonsense; for it negatives the other half, the logical observance of which would compel the Alliance to interfere on behalf of Dissenters in England as well as Dissenters in Russia and all other countries out of England. Having written this, however, the pamphlet proceeds to denounce, in unsparing language, the "nefarious practices" the "detestable frauds," the jugglery, the cruelty, the craft of the Greek Church, and the "tyrannous laws," and the "intolerable oppressions" of the Government of Russia. All these phrases are justified by the facts narrated in this stirring pamphlet; but if they have not to do with "political ideas," are not calculated to arouse a "political spirit," we do not know what can be their object. All honour to the Evangelical Alliance for the work it has accomplished in this direction, but to say that it is not political, is to say what is absurd. Better out with the real fact, and say that the members are inconsistent and illogical, because the State-Church in England must be supported at all cost, whether of the "golden maxim" or anything else.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

PUBLIC MEETING AT DERBY.

Last Wednesday evening a large and enthusiastic meeting, to consider "The proposed disestablishment of the Church of England," was held in the Guildhall, Derby. It was presided over by Mr. Alderman Langdon (a member of the Society of Friends), and addressed by Mr. Carvell Williams, the Rev. W. Crosbie, LL.B. (Independent) the Rev. W. Wenn (Primitive Methodist), the Rev. W. Griffith (Methodist Free Church), and Mr. J. C. Cox (Episcopalian).

The speech of Mr. Cox, who resides at Hazelwood, near Derby, and who is a magistrate and a Churchman, was one of the leading features of the proceedings; he having denounced the evils resulting from the establishment of the Church with even greater vigour than any of the Nonconformist speakers. The *Derby Reporter* gives the following abstract of his speech:—

He said that, though a member of the Church of England, he heartily endorsed every word of the resolution which he had just read—(cheers)—for the more he reflected upon the question, the more thoroughly he became convinced that religious establishments and religious liberty were incompatible, and could not be placed side by side. (Loud applause.) The very fact of the existence of one religious Church supported by the State showed that religious liberty in its fullest and best sense could not and did not exist. (Applause.) He believed that the Church of England would be much benefited by being disestablished, and he was perfectly convinced that her usefulness and influence for good in the future would be extended by the adoption of such a motion as that which Mr. Miall was about to bring forward. (Loud applause.) He believed that if the Church of England were freed from the shackles of the State, if they had any bishops at all, they would have a far better stamp of bishops than before. (Hear, hear.) It was preposterous and monstrous that the State should appoint bishops. (Hear, hear.) If the Church were disestablished they would not have bishops appointed because they were brothers or nearly related to any member of the Government. (Hear, hear.) He could not conceive that a bishop should be appointed because he was a member of some noble house, because he had a handle to his name, or because he was a political partisan of the Government then in power. (Applause.) When the Church was liberated from the shackles of the State, they would appoint their ministers, or whatever name they choose to call them, from persons who had shown by their lives that they were God-fearing men. (Applause.) He considered the practice of buying and selling livings most disgraceful, and a scandal to the nation. If they bought a commission in the army, certain duties were prescribed for those who bought them, and if they did not perform those duties they lost their commission; and a professional man, or a man engaged in trade, had to attend to his business or else he would lose a great deal of money. But it was not so with regard to some vicars and incumbents, who could sit with their hands in their pockets, and appoint another man to do their duties with only a small portion of their salary, whilst every day, with the exception of Sunday, they were joining in all kinds of sports and amusements. (Shame.) He was happy to say that such

instances were exceedingly rare and infrequent, and he thanked God that they were. (Hear, hear.) But he complained that such a state of things had been allowed to exist for a moment; he complained that the parishioners were not allowed to have a voice in the choice of their ministers, and that they were compelled to have them, whether they pleased the people or not. The great reason why the popularity of the Church of England was on the wane was because the parishioners had no voice in ecclesiastical affairs. (Hear, hear.) He did not mean that they could not join conferences or synods, if they chose, or if they believed that these would do any good. (Laughter.) He could not conceive how the laity of the Church of England had stood silent upon the matter so long. He could only attribute it to the unfortunate system of Toryism, which still prevailed throughout the mass of his fellow-Churchmen—that spirit which would uphold everything that had antiquity on its side, and which nearly made vice a virtue. He asked the Dissenters present how they would like some nobleman to come from a distance and appoint them a pastor, whom they would be unable to remove, even though he imitated the antics of Mackonochie or taught the principles of Colenso. He doubted not but that they would soon find a short way of putting things right. (Applause.) The Church of England was in an unfortunate position by being attached to the State; for he believed that freedom of religion would produce as great results to Christianity as free-trade had done to commerce and manufactures. (Applause.) He concluded by urging the men of Derby to take up the question warmly; desiring them not to allow it to rest for a moment; not to be satisfied with what had been done that evening, but to pledge themselves, when an election came—and they knew not how soon one might come—not to give their vote to any candidate who would not distinctly promise to vote for thorough religious liberty, and not for the mockery of toleration. He himself would give the movement his sincere and hearty support, and earnestly wished it God-speed. Mr. Cox resumed his seat amidst loud and prolonged applause.

The proceedings were characterised by unanimity as well as heartiness.

GREAT MEETING AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

Last Tuesday a great meeting was held at the Town-hall, Ashton, to hear a lecture by the Rev. A. Macfadyen, of Manchester, on "The Establishment System a Selfish System: an Appeal to Scripture and Experience." The chair, says the *Ashton News*, from which we derive our report, was taken by Mr. J. Waterhouse, and there were also on the platform Hugh Mason, Esq., J.P., W. Sunderland, Esq., J.P., J. Wood, Esq., J.P., Alderman Galt, James B. Massey, Esq., N. B. Sutcliffe, Esq., Mr. Jonas Knight, Mr. Dan Smith, Mr. James Kelsall, Mr. W. K. Armstrong; the Revs. J. Hutchison, J. Hughes, Ashton; J. B. Walton, Dukinfield; W. Evans, A. North, Stalybridge; J. Coombs; and a great number of ladies and gentlemen. The hall was densely filled by a respectable and intelligent audience. The threatened invasion from Stalybridge did not take place, and if it had, there was ample preparation to frustrate any attempt to upset the meeting. It is said the only thing that prevented tickets being forged as at Stalybridge was that the Tories could not get hold of a genuine ticket in time. The meeting was a happy contrast to that at Stalybridge. Not only did the lecturer obtain a hearing, but the audience were to a man most enthusiastic in his favour.

The CHAIRMAN, after some opening remarks, congratulated the meeting upon its orderly aspect. The Liberation Society, he said, only asked for the hearing ear, and the understanding or the inquiring heart. It was not their purpose to appeal to the civil power in relation to this question on behalf of their own particular church organisations, and certainly it was never their intention to appeal to those very uncivil powers which had recently been arrayed against them. (Laughter and cheers.) Their appeal upon that platform was always taken in presence of those truth-testers, Scripture and Experience, and to those alone was their appeal made.

Mr. Macfadyen's lecture, which is printed at length in the *Ashton News*, was of an original and eloquent character, and was listened to with great interest and applause. At its close

Mr. HUGH MASON, who was received with cheers, said: A more rousing and inspiring lecture I never listened to—a more impartial lecture was never delivered—(Hear, hear)—a more convincing lecture was never heard by an audience. (Cheers.) Our weapons in the warfare in which we are engaged are reason and argument. We seek to influence public opinion in the way in which we have sought to do it to-night. We seek to bring that public opinion to bear upon the legislature of the country, and by-and-bye we hope for complete and eternal justice. (Applause.) I beg to move with great pleasure that the warm thanks of this meeting be given to the Rev. Alexander Macfadyen, of Manchester, for the lecture with which he has favoured us. I hope most earnestly that that lecture will be replied to. (Hear, hear.) We cordially court fair opposition. (Cheers.) We entreat manly and honourable controversy. We have nothing to fear by the arguments of to-night being thoroughly sifted by Dr. Massingham, of Warrington, or by any other champion of the State-Church—(cheers)—and we will promise him if he will come, or any man of his creed or colour, that he shall have a fair, impartial, quiet, and appreciative audience. (Cheers.) Those are our weapons, and those are our ends, and I am happy to say that the Liberation Society, strong in what it has already accomplished in the past, will

not throw aside its armour, will not wipe its brow, nor dust its feet, until every tittle of the whole of the Society's scheme has been fully accomplished. (Applause.)

The Rev. JOHN HUTCHISON, in seconding the motion, remarked: It is often said that this movement is a purely political one. No man in this room can have listened to the lecture that has been delivered to-night, and go away with that impression. We have long been contending against certain forms of political injustice. We have been Dissenters and Nonconformists in the past, but henceforth we are Free Churchmen. The time has come when we must assert the positive side of our principles, and show, as the lecturer has done to-night, that those principles are in true relation to Scripture, and also in true relation to the culture and development of religious life in the souls of men. I rejoice to think we have had a lecture grappling with the subject from this point of view. You must not suppose that this lecture has covered the whole ground of this great subject. It has only broken the ground, and you, the men of Ashton, who have listened to it with such care, intelligence, and thought, will again and again have other aspects of the subject brought before you, and have them equally well discussed. I rejoice in this characteristic of the lecture that has been pointed out by Mr. Mason, that it is perfectly impartial. I am sure we have got it pretty well ourselves. (Laughter.) But we do not object to that at all. It is not men we are fighting against, or the State Church as an episcopal community, or a liturgical community, but it is the system of State-Churchism we are contending against, and not men or any particular form of organised Christianity. These views have been clearly brought out by the lecturer to-night, and I rejoice to think he has received such a quiet, and enthusiastic, and intelligent response—very different indeed from what I saw in another place only a few days ago—(laughter)—and I hope that there will be more meetings of this kind, and that the other side of the question will be represented. It is really a great subject, and it has been fought, to a large extent, merely from the outworks in the past. We have now come to the citadel itself, and we must have intelligent Free Churchmen see and know the grounds on which we are such. Depend upon it, we have truth on our side, as I firmly believe we have. We shall move even the legislature itself, and perfect religious equality shall become the law of the land. (Cheers.) Shame were it to us that the cry for a free church in a free State were to be heard and asserted in Italy, and England, with her proud and glorious liberty, were to be behind in the race. The motto for England ought to be, not a free church in a free State, but free churches in a free State. Let us give perfect liberty and impartiality to every society in the sight of the law, and every form of Christianity. Let there be a fair field and no favour. That, sir, is what we want, and nothing more.

The motion was carried with acclamation.

The Rev. Mr. MACFADYEN, in reply, said he hoped that what he had said had done something to confirm the opinions of those who held them already, and if there were a candid and impartial opponent there that night he trusted he had done something at least to bring him over to the side of what he believed to be the truth. He concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Mr. WILLIAM SUNDERLAND seconded the motion, and it was adopted with cheers.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the compliment, said that was the most gratifying meeting he had ever attended. He announced that on that night fortnight the Rev. John Medcraft, now of Stockport, formerly of Ashton-under-Lyne, would deliver a lecture on "The Origin, Progress, and Ultimate Triumph of Nonconformity."

HERTFORDSHIRE.—We understand that Mr. A. Carey Fuller attended a meeting on behalf of the Society at Royston last evening, and is engaged for Ashwell this evening, and Thetford to-morrow.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Birmingham District Conference is to be held next Tuesday; the circular convening it being signed by the Rev. Messrs. Vince, Dale, and Johnson, Messrs. Chamberlain, Dawson, Mantou, Middlemore, and Wright. A large and influential attendance is expected.

HUDDESFIELD.—The Rev. Marmaduke Miller lectured at the Theatre Royal in this borough on Monday last, to a large audience, on the "Present State of the Church Establishment Question." The Rev. R. Bruce took the chair. Mr. Miller's lecture was of a most comprehensive character. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Alderman Priestley, Mr. Denham, and Mr. John Andrew.

BARNESLEY.—The annual meeting of the Barnsley Auxiliary of the Liberation Society was held on Tuesday. Mr. Councillor Shaw presided, and at the close of his opening address, said that he had never been engaged in any movement which had been on the losing side, and he hoped yet to see the day when the principles advocated by this society would be carried out. The Rev. B. Browne, B.A., addressed the meeting on the recent steps towards disestablishment, and was followed by Mr. Andrew.

CONFERENCE AT NOTTINGHAM.—Another of the series of district conferences now being held by the Liberation Society was held at Nottingham, on Tuesday, the 29th Nov. Mr. Carvell Williams was present as a deputation, and the meeting—which was well attended—was presided over by the Rev. W. R. Stevenson, in whose school-room it was held. After the delivery of an introductory address by Mr. Williams, the Society's proposed policy was considered and approved, and a discussion ensued as to the best means of carrying

on the disestablishment movement in Nottingham and in the country. It was agreed that lectures should be delivered in the town, before the holding of a public meeting, and the necessity for interesting young men in the question was insisted upon. It was also strongly urged that the smaller towns and the villages should not be neglected; it being stated that there is much oppression in both, and that voluntaries living in large towns should do their utmost to protect and strengthen their weaker brethren. A large local committee was formed to give effect to the resolutions adopted.

DERBY.—A well-attended and animated conference was held here on the 30th inst., under the presidency of the Rev. H. Craseweller. The Society's secretary was present, as were also representatives from various parts of the county. The proposed plans of the Society received the sanction of the conference, which devoted much time to the consideration of plans of action. The Rev. W. Griffith hoped that the rural parishes, and also the working classes, would be well looked after, and suggested that the Society's friends might often address letters on the State-Church question to the local press. Mr. Crossley (a Wesleyan) of Ripley, said, if lecturers were sent there, they would have a good reception. The Rev. J. Bonser, of Ilkestone, made a point of the circulation of good tracts, containing practical information. Mr. Kirk advised the Society not to expect too much from the villages, where great difficulties had to be contended with. The Rev. Messrs. Stevenson, Knowles (Belper), Merwood, and others took part in the discussion. In the evening there was a large and enthusiastic public meeting, which we have noticed separately.

ARE NATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS INJURIOUS TO RELIGION.

This was the title of the paper read by the Rev. A. Mackennal at the second of the series of conferences on the Church and State question, held at Leicester, on Friday, November 25. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. Stanyon, who introduced the lecturer.

Mr. MACKENNAL commenced by a reference to the present state of the question, nearly all practical grievances having been redressed, so that the controversy could now be calmly carried on, and was lifted to a higher and nobler region. He could sincerely express his belief that it would be an immense gain to the Church of England as a spiritual institution to dis sever her special connection with the State:—

Her spiritual powers would be stimulated and enlarged by her consciousness of dependence solely and absolutely upon those energies which are of Divine inspiration, her zeal for religious truth, her desire for religious purity, and her love for the souls of this great English people. I believe her functions as a religious teacher, as a spiritual guardian and friend of the nation, would find abundant scope for their fulfilment were she freed from the perpetual check and hindrance imposed upon her by political necessity. I believe that if she stood forward as spiritual teacher alone, she would at once acquire the full authority of the teacher, than which there is on earth no object more worthy of human or of Christian ambition. Her influence in this land would be almost unbounded if she appeared in the simple virgin beauty of a church, if to her clung no taint of political subserviency, or selfish partnership, or chartered indolence, or the tolerance of injustice for the sake of place and wealth. Let her give up her secular privileges, resign her tithes and her exactions, that clear and unhesitating her voice may ring, "We seek not yours, but you." Let her, in the spirit of her Master's words, "it is more blessed to give than to receive," show herself more ready to resign than to exact; let her stir up the Christian generosity and confidence that are in her, and throw herself upon the heart of England,—she would find that the heart of England was still hers. Let Churchmen also believe me when I say that in such an extension of her usefulness none would more heartily rejoice than the great body of English Nonconformists. Such a gain to her would not be, could not possibly be, a corresponding loss to us. There is no exclusive possession in spiritual influence; come whencesoever it may, it is the boon of every one who can appreciate it; its "quality" is not "strained";

It droppeth, as the gentle rain from heaven,
Upon the place beneath: it is twice blest;
It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes.

Spiritual force and fervour in any one Church is the heritage of all the Churches. Every one of us is interested in the triumph of truth, the victory of zeal, and the influence of goodness. We have no quarrel with the Church of England as a Church. To borrow the language of her 10th Article, I would say, "As the Churches of Jerusalem, Alexandria, and Antioch," and Rome, "have erred," so also the Church of England hath erred, not only in their living and manner of ceremonies, but also, "in some particulars," "in matters of Faith." But we also recognise within her the "Congregation of faithful men, in the which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments be duly administered according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same." This is the Church we seek to liberate; this the Church of which we say with Mr. Gladstone, "Her foundations are on the holy hills. Her charter is legibly divine. She, if she should be excluded from the precinct of Government, may still fulfil all her functions, and carry them out to perfection. Her condition would be anything rather than pitiable, should she once more occupy the position which she held before the reign of Constantine."

The lecturer defined what he meant by a national establishment of religion, especially pointing out the difference of relationship in respect to the law of the Church and Nonconformity. The law was open to Dissenters, in the last resort, so that for the protection of civil rights and the enforcement of civil

obligations they were under the Royal Supremacy. But there was this essential difference:—

The law may review and pronounce upon ecclesiastical action among Dissenters; it controls the ecclesiastical action of Churchmen. "In an Established Church such decisions bind the action and regulate the conduct (and even the corporate conscience) of the body. It is otherwise with churches outside." The law, for instance, may in certain cases give damages to a man who suffers in property or civil reputation from excommunication from an unestablished Church; it cannot compel his restoration to the Church. In the Established Church it can. It can compel minister and people to receive at the Communion one who has been excommunicated, whom they may still believe, erroneously perhaps, but conscientiously, to be wholly unworthy of Christian confidence, and whose very presence there they deem an offence, a profanation of the most sacred ordinance of their religion. The law cannot continue in a Dissenting pulpit a minister unwelcome to the people or distrusted by them; it cannot compel them to attend his ministry nor unchurch them if they remove. The recognition of such a minister or such a people by the whole religious community to which they belong is left with the body itself, who determine according to their conscience with whom they will continue, with whom they will decline fellowship. If an established congregation removes from the ministry of one so forced upon them, it is no longer of the Church. The "corporate conscience" of the religious fellowship may be with them, it matters not, they are *de facto* cast out and schismatic.

The actual weight of this difference is immense. Consider, now, whether a body of lawyers anywhere are the right parties to judge in matters of theology and ecclesiastical discipline. "To lay aside circumlocution," says Mr. Gladstone, "and utter outright the word which solicits me, there is great fear lest judges, dragged *pro re nata* into theology, should, and of course to the detriment of somebody or other, talk nonsense." We do not assert congregational infallibility, but we do ask that the consciences of religious communities be respected. Let them be mulcted if they, with whatever sincerity, wrong others; but it is monstrous, it is destructive of all spiritual reality, to constrain them to do what their consciences, even while they do it, refuse to ratify it. The practical result of this action of the Royal supremacy is that, in the English Establishment, discipline is unknown; and that the Scottish Establishment, twenty-seven years ago, was rent in twain. Mr. Gladstone, who, as an Episcopalian, is a Churchman in England and a Dissenter in Scotland, can appreciate the difference between the supremacy of law over Churchmen and over Dissenters. Speaking of the danger of unwise decisions of courts of law in ecclesiastical cases, he says, in a letter to the Bishop of Aberdeen and Primus in Scotland, "This danger is not of the fatal kind to us which it would be if any such judgment of the civil courts involved an obligation upon conscience beyond the limits of the temporalities involved. Up to that limit, of course, they do, even for a voluntary society, involve such an obligation; but when they pass beyond it they are waste paper."

Dissenters were not indifferent even to the public acknowledgment of religion, nor to the discharge of religious obligations by the State towards soldiers and sailors, children to whom it stood *in loco parentis*, paupers in our poorhouses, or prisoners whose reformation the nation rightly sought whilst it held them in durance:—

I, for instance, should not like to sit down at a corporation dinner where no thanks were uttered to God for the food. I should regret the discontinuance of a religious ceremony at a coronation, or the abandonment of the practice of opening Parliamentary proceedings with prayer. In a country where there were none but free churches, such services need not be discontinued; they would not be so in England, were the Church severed from the State to-morrow; nor would it be difficult so to arrange for the conduct of such services as that no one's conscience should be off-ended by their discharge by ministers of another denomination than his own. Observe, however, if this difficulty is insuperable, the present practice is by that very fact condemned. If this difficulty is insuperable, many consciences are now wronged. If this difficulty is insuperable, these services, as at present conducted, are in no true sense an expression of the nation's religion; they are but forms imposed upon the people by the adherents of a dominant Church.

If the Corporation of Leicester, for instance, could not possibly agree what clergyman should pronounce a blessing on a civic banquet, it would be far better that no blessing should be pronounced. The religious service at a coronation—may it be far, far distant!—would probably be conducted after disestablishment much as it is now. The archbishops and bishops would be in the place of priority, which would be freely assigned to them by members of other Churches, as ministers of that religious community which is most of all bound up with the history of the land. If a few ministers of other Churches should be bidden to the ceremonial, the monarch would be none the worse for the responses they would solemnly and affectionately make to the official prayer. But should it be otherwise, would it be either an honour or a comfort to the Archbishop of Canterbury to be the professed representative of a people who refused his representation? The priesthood of the English clergy depends upon their being, in deed and in truth, the mouthpiece and the voice of the people's praises and supplications. Let them know they are so, as they would know, by the people's choosing them to such an office; their prayers would gain in fervour and in feeling by the knowledge. If they be not so, their priesthood has *de facto* lapsed; the all-seeing God pierces the hollowness of the professed position of both priest and people before Him.

Mr. Gathorne Hardy, speaking of what would be the result of a separation between Church and State, says, "Your Parliaments, which are opened with prayer for the direction of Divine Providence, for the direction of the Divine Wisdom in the legislation which they are about to enact, must put aside their chaplains, and enter upon their duties without any pretence of calling upon God. Some may say that the ministers of different denominations may take the duty in turn. All I can say is, it would be a very objectionable thing to my conscience if it was taken in turn." And to this re-

mark many of his audience replied "Hear, hear." Surely it must before this have occurred to Mr. Hardy, and to some of those who applauded him, that if all the members of the House of Commons are like him, he must be a party to the imposition of a "very objectionable thing" on the consciences of a great number of them. Moreover, the prayer which is a "very objectionable thing to the conscience" of the professed worshippers is no prayer at all. We have no means of gauging the devotion of the House of Commons; we cannot distinguish who are praying with the chaplain and who are not. But they are distinguished by Him to whom the prayer is offered. There is something worse than being, "politically speaking, an infidel nation"; that is being not only politically speaking, but really, a hypocritical nation.

Who that knows English Churchmanship and English Dissent, can for a moment believe that our soldiers and sailors, and deserted children, and paupers, and prisoners, would lack religious instruction in case of disestablishment? "According to this new theory, all these things ought to be done away with," says Mr. Hardy, "if they act upon logical principles, and logic is the thing upon which we are always taunted." Well, we have not yet resigned to Mr. Hardy the logical development of our principles. We affirm that none of these things should be done away with; they are not done away with in America, they will not be done away with in Free Church England. We will take care of logic in the matter, for logic has always taken good care of us.

The lecturer then quoted Mr. Gladstone's remark "that, while the tone and amount of personal religion had been rising in general society, the religious character of the State, as such, had progressively declined." The influence of religious establishments in respect to religious obligation was injurious. State exigency or favour could neither compel nor induce religious conduct, as had also been shown by Mr. Gladstone.

The "cold calculating and worldly-minded man" who supports a good law for the same reason for which he would support a bad one, is not made religious because he is thus enlisted on behalf of religion. The "timid man who is 'friendly' has not been delivered from 'the shame or sense of affectation' which is one of the worst enemies religion has to encounter; he has brought with him the taint that makes his profession almost worthless. 'Men in general' are led to confound religion with 'the sentiments of loyalty and patriotism'; and the 'hostile' are either overborne or cowed. All these classes, and many more,—the giddy, the time-serving, lovers of fashion, the cringing, and the base—are drawn by every motive, except the religious, into relations with the Church, and continue exactly as they were. Nay, they are not exactly as they were; an almost irreparable injury has been done them. The only power that could have made true men of them is the religious power, and this they have been taught by the appeal of the Establishment to ignore or to distrust. They appear to be religious, and they are not. They may think themselves to be religious, and they are not. To tell them the truth about themselves was the duty of a faithful Church; this would have been the most wholesome thing for them; but the State has ensnared them with deluding charms. Of what advantage, again, are such men—the 'cold calculating and worldly-minded,' the 'timid who are friendly,' and 'men in general,' won through the sentiments of loyalty and patriotism—of what advantage are these to religion? A single man won by conviction were worth them all. Gideon knew better than to encumber himself with such. "Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from Mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand." As in Gideon's battle, so in all religious efforts, even the brave have to be further sifted. Three hundred, one hundred, one, may defend and extend the cause of truth. Only they who are to do it must be moved absolutely by loyalty to truth. Truth and status, truth and privilege, truth and gold,—these are not religious energies, but truth alone.

By means of national establishments of religion conscience was ensnared, and the cause of catholicity and religious extension suffered by being made to depend on other than religious motives. Even the remote prospect of disestablishment had made Churchmen preachers of the spiritual force of the Church, and the efficiency of voluntarism. The sufficiency of religion for all religious purposes, for witness to and extension of the truth, and to make the truth felt over society in all its vital energy, had been by none more abundantly and eloquently enforced than by the religious advocates of establishments, such as Dr. Chalmers, whose words the lecturer quoted. The same testimony had been borne by Mr. Gladstone, who, it would be seen, well understood their principles:—

The security of religion (he says) lies first in the Providence of God, and the promise of Christ; next in the religious character, and strong sentiment of personal duty and responsibility, so deeply graven on this country and its people. But if that character and sentiment be the mainstay of our reliance here on earth, our first duty must be to see that full scope is given to it; that the development of conscientious convictions, in whatever quarter, is not artificially impeded by legislative meddling; that, however wary and patient we may be as to any question of moving forwards, above all we be careful not to move backwards, nor for one moment acquiesce in any kind of tampering with the existing liberty of conscience in the persons either of ourselves or of others.

If they could lay aside the spirit of trade in religion, the attempt to make our schemes paying ones, the spirit of competition in pulpits and churches, and let the true Christian spirit, of zeal for truth and of brotherly fellowship among all churches, and of determination to evangelise our nation and the world, prevail, their principles would win a wide acceptance; their victory will be as good as gained. After an appeal to the younger Nonconformists of Leicester, Mr. Mackennal concluded by saying that they ought to distinguish between the virtues and failings of the Church of England, and they might apply to her the

beautiful words of Keble in reference to the Church of Rome—

And O! by all the pangs and fears
Fraternal spirits know,
When for an elder's shame the tears
Of wakeful anguish flow,
Speak gently of our sister's fall;
Who knows but gentle love
May win her at our patient call
The surer way to prove?

The CHAIRMAN having invited discussion, Mr. GEORGE KING, who said he was an evangelist, and formerly a prizefighter in London, came forward, and in the course of some remarks said that he was a Churchman—a member of the Church of Christ, but not of the Church of England. His experience taught him that Establishments were not favourable to religion, but in the prosecution of his work, especially in the country districts, he met with more opposition from the clergymen of the Established Church than from any other class.

Mr. S. BAINES, in a few appropriate remarks, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Mackennal, which was seconded by the Rev. J. KEE, M.A., who referred to the disruption of the Church of Scotland in 1843, and said that the 400 Free Church clergymen who went out had now grown to 900, which was a striking proof of the progress which their principles had made. They had now 900 churches in the cities, which by their sustentation funds and other means supported churches in the Highland and outlying districts where churches could not be supported. These city churches had proved themselves of great benefit to the community, and he believed that if those ministers were allowed to re-enter the State Church to-day they would refuse to do so. (Applause.)

Mr. C. OLDERSHAW did not consider that the lecturer had made out that Establishments were really unfavourable to religion. He took it that religion was a personal thing, and that being the case he did not see anything in a National Establishment which necessarily prevented or hindered it. (Hear, hear.) He was afraid they were too much influenced by the state of things which had existed in the country years ago, and the feelings which were excited by Church-rates and similar matters. He would venture to call to the minds of gentlemen present, who he was sure believed the Bible to be the Word of God, that God Himself appointed a National Church. The Jewish Church was a National Church, and embraced the whole nation, and the laws of the Church were enforced by the State. If that connection was unfavourable to religion, in that Church was found the Sweet Singer of Israel, whose psalms had been the consolation and delight of Christians of all times—(applause)—and even our Lord Himself was a member of that National Church, and fulfilled all its requirements. Dissent had only assumed anything like considerable proportions within the last 300 years, and that among the noble army of martyrs were to be found members of the Church of England. (Applause.) There were amongst the members of the Church of England men whose lives were looked up to as examples by Christians of all denominations. (Hear, hear.) It appeared to him there was as much religion in the Church of England as was to be found in the ranks of the Dissenters. (Applause.) He believed that Establishments, as the only means of conveying religious truth to the remote districts of the country, had proved themselves valuable aids to religion. (Loud applause.)

The Rev. E. FRANKS asked Mr. Oldershaw to name the members of the Established Church who were martyrs.

Mr. OLDERSHAW might mention the names of Ridley and Latimer, who were members of the Established Church.

Mr. FRANKS replied that these were both Dissenters.

Mr. OLDERSHAW: Latimer was a Bishop of the Established Church, whether he was a Dissenter or not. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. FRANKS said that was quite true, but he left the Church, and it was because he did so that he was burnt, and the National Church, which he had left, burnt him. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SMITH referred to the success which attended voluntary efforts in America, where all religions were free from State control, and remarked that he could not conceive anything worse for any of the Nonconforming bodies than to be trammelled by any connection with the State in the same way as the Church of England was. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. NUGENT could not agree with all that had been advanced by the lecturer, although he would not go so far as to say that the argument against the Established Church could not be sustained. It appeared to him that if there was to be separation of the Church and the State, it must arise from circumstances within the Church, and not from attacks from without. Some thought it was the duty of the State to provide true religion for the people, and the question was whether the Church of England had provided such a religion for the people of this country or not. He felt deeply interested in the conferences which had been convened in Leicester, and he hoped they would have a conference before long to consider the best means of overtaking the spread of irreligion in the land.

The Rev. C. C. COZ, who was received with applause, said that they were met there without any theological bias whatever. (Applause.) They met regarding religion, and the connection between Church and State, from a purely political point of view, and he thought they had better keep to that one point. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Mackennal was doubtless the proper person to reply to the remarks that had been made, but he would just say in reply

to Mr. Oldershaw that the National Church of the Jews if it was anything was a theocracy—it was sustained by miracle, which it could not be supposed would be reproduced in the present day. (Hear, hear.) He was inclined to think that the prophets and Christ were regarded in their time more as Dissenters than as State-Churchmen. As to the Apostolic time, so far as the Roman Empire was concerned, all religions were equally tolerated.

The vote of thanks was then put to the meeting and carried with acclamation.

The Rev. A. MACKENNAL, on rising to respond, was received with loud applause. He said Mr. Oldershaw strongly tempted him to go into a very wide subject, but he would only say that the whole condition of State-Churchism among the Jews, where the whole nation formed the Church, was very different from what they saw now. He did not believe that the Jewish Church as it existed made against his position that Establishments were unfavourable to religion, but rather in favour of it. However, they were not under the Jewish law now, but under the Christian dispensation, and Christ Himself had taught them the folly of putting the new wine of the Gospel into the old bottles of the Jewish system. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Nugent had quite misrepresented the history of the disruption in the Scottish Church. The disruption of 1843 followed a voluntary agitation in 1838, and it was in the voluntary agitation in 1838 that the religious energy of the Evangelical party in the Church of Scotland was so stimulated and fostered that in 1843 secession from the Church for conscience' sake took place. (Hear, hear.)

On the motion of the Rev. Jos. Wood, seconded by the Rev. A. MACKENNAL, a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

MR. LEATHAM, M.P., ON DISESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. E. A. Leatham, the member for Huddersfield, delivered his annual address to his constituents on Tuesday, in the Theatre Royal of that town. Mr. C. H. Jones, the Mayor of Huddersfield, presided.

Mr. LEATHAM, whose rising was the signal for loud and continued cheering, first referred to the Eastern question, and after a few words on the subject of national defence, turned to that of education. It was impossible, he said, to regard a system as permanent which handed over the education of children in every rural parish to the priesthood, and flung it to be scrambled after in every town district among the sects. (Hear, hear.) It was impossible to regard a system as permanent which took pay from one man in order to propagate another man's belief. (Cheers.) And what were they to expect from this plan of cumulative voting? How was that beginning to work? Was it going to give them the best, the most reasonable, and the most intelligent men of all parties, or was it going to give them a huge batch of bigots or other crotcheters? (Cheers.) But, continued the hon. gentleman, I do not wish to enter into the great controversy which occupied so many hours to deliberate during the last session of Parliament. That controversy went by many names, its real issue was but one: Shall the Church of England remain supreme? (Cheers, and cries of "No.") That is the great central and cardinal question around which every other must be made, and is already made, to turn. Shall the Church of England remain supreme? We may blink the question as much as we please, but it stares us everywhere in the face. I am not here to mince matters. I have never come here to do that—(cheers)—and I should be unworthy of the confidence which you, a great Nonconformist constituency, reposed in me, a man whose forefathers were Nonconformists at a time when Nonconformity like theirs meant not simply exclusion from every function of the citizen, but fines, imprisonment, and stripes—I should be unworthy of them, and unworthy of you, if I were to attempt now to gloss over the fact that the attitude of the present Government with reference to every measure which takes its root in this question of the Church, is diametrically opposed to the attitude of those, by virtue of whose power throughout the kingdom, they are now sitting upon the Treasury Bench. (Cheers.) I remember the worst days of Lord Palmerston's Administration; I remember how little love was lost between the two wings of the party then; but I remember no disappointment more severe—I had nearly said no disaffection more menacing—than that with which almost every Nonconformist in Parliament received Mr. Gladstone's speech upon the proposition to disestablish the Church in Wales, or his speech upon the motion of my right hon. friend Mr. Somerset Beaumont, to relieve the bishops from the duty of sitting in the House of Lords. It was not that he opposed these motions. Under the circumstances no one expected that he would do otherwise; but the ground upon which he opposed them was such that had we not known that some of his most stubborn displays of opinion have preceded some of his most precipitate conversions, we should almost begin to doubt whether it is possible that he could long retain the leadership of a party, all that is resolute and all that is unmanageable in which has made up its mind to this, that all considerations of party, all remembrance of past services, all hopes of benefits to come, shall be made subordinate to this one principle, and that is the recognition by law of a complete and absolute equality between every English creed. (Loud cheering.) The fundamental error of those who are undertaking to lead the Liberal party is that anything short of this, any remission of the remaining pains and penalties of Dissent, any removal of the disabilities under which we still labour at the Universities or elsewhere,

will satisfy Dissenters now. (Cheers.) The time is gone by for ever for these crumbs of toleration. (Cheers.) Why is it that we regard with almost absolute indifference the rejection by the House of Lords of the last little modicum of justice? It is because we have need of greater justice; it is because we resent as an impertinence the very phrase toleration—(Hear, hear)—it is because we are sick of these doles of compassion—(Hear, hear)—flung to us with supercilious hesitation, to us the dogs under the table, to us the pith and marrow of the Liberal party. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) I have often stood upon the sea shore and watched the progress of the flowing and tumbling tide. Wave after wave flings its white foam over "the shrieking strand"; and as I have looked seawards over the wide array of breakers, I have sometimes seen afar off one broader shadow and one loftier crest. I have rejoiced to watch the march of that gigantic wave. At last it comes, driving all minor waves before it, and leaping in tumultuous exultation up to the beach itself. I have stood, I say, upon the sea-shore, and as a politician I stand there now. (Cheers.) Wave after wave, question after question, boats in monotonous progress at my feet; but as I look over the ocean I see afar off, every moment coming nearer, one wave which towers above its fellows, travelling in the greatness of its strength. And that wave is this great Church question, and it will sweep the flood-tide home. (Loud and continued cheering, during which the hon. member resumed his seat.)

ANOTHER TRIAL FOR HERESY IN SCOTLAND.

Some time ago the Edinburgh Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church took action against the Rev. George Gillfillan, of Dundee, for some statements which he had made about the Confession of Faith, and some pretty smart sparring ensued between them and the Dundee Presbytery, the latter, among other things, charging their metropolitan brethren with going out of their way in the matter. The Edinburgh guardians of the Church's orthodoxy have now, however, got a real live case of heresy within their own borders, and have already devoted an entire sitting to its consideration. The Rev. Fergus Ferguson, one of the ministers of the body at the neighbouring town of Dalkeith, in the course of his Sabbath lectures on the Epistle of St. Peter, came upon the knotty passage which says that Christ "preached unto the spirits in prison." In his endeavour to explain it, one of his elders, named Dods, thought he could distinctly scent heresy, and he complained to the Presbytery that his pastor appeared to be propounding the dogma of the existence of a middle state, in which infants and the heathen had the Gospel preached to them. Mr. Ferguson was last week called upon to make his defence, and generally stated that, in his opinion, Christ addressed "spirits in prison" in a "department of the invisible world," "between His death and His resurrection," on the subject of "Himself and His finished work," and with a view "apparently to set before them such a knowledge of salvation as they had not when upon the earth." Assuming that this had been done to the "antediluvians," he suggested the possibility that the course might not be exceptional, and that the thought "is fitted to cast a ray of hope upon the awful question of the destiny of the heathen world." He also said that he held the Confession of Faith as honestly as any thoughtful individual in the nineteenth century could be expected to hold a document produced in the seventeenth, but that our views are not to be finally shut up and sealed in it. If so, we should be "spirits in prison," sadly in want of emancipation. This explanation was not considered to be sufficient, and he was accordingly subjected to a running fire of questions, until, as one of the members said, he was put into the confessional, and asked to state what he believed and not what he had said on the occasion referred to. One reverend doctor said he wished to know whether Mr. Ferguson believed there was a third state; another said that the Confession affirmed that there were only two states after death; and a third that there were times when they must take their stand on their doctrines, and that the Confession was in accordance with Scripture. The audience—for the proceedings were carried on in public—seemed to sympathise with Mr. Ferguson rather than with his questioners, and gave expression to their feelings in such a way that a threat was made to clear the court. After much badgering, Mr. Ferguson took his stand on the further explanation that, whatever claim or hope might be supposed to lie in the passage in St. Peter with regard to those who were beyond the pale of God's revelation, there was no hope to be drawn from it with regard to those who in time rejected that salvation. This statement was regarded as so unsatisfactory that a committee was appointed to confer with Mr. Ferguson in private, and to report to the Presbytery at their meeting next month.

The Bishop of Colombo (Dr. Piers Claughton) will succeed the late Archdeacon Hale as Archdeacon of London.

Bishop Sumner, late of Winchester, completed his eightieth year last week. The Right Rev. Prelate regularly attends St. Andrew's, Farnham, and appears to be in good health.

NEW BISHOPS.—On Wednesday the new Bishops of Mauritius and Sierra Leone were consecrated in St. Paul's Cathedral, in the presence of a crowded congregation. The Bishop of London performed the service, assisted by the Bishop of Lichfield and Bishop Ryan. In St. Andrew's Cathedral, Inverness, the Rev. Allan Webb, of University College,

Oxford, was consecrated Bishop of Orange River Free State.

SYMPATHY WITH THE POPE.—A meeting of sympathy with the Pope was held in Marlborough-street, Romish Cathedral, Dublin, on Wednesday. Cardinal Cullen presided. The first resolution was moved by the Earl of Granard, who said the policy of Italy in invading Rome while France was in difficulties was a contemptible policy, and had already borne its fruits in the repudiation of the Treaty of 1856. The Rev. Mr. Burke said if England proved ungrateful to Rome it would be the duty of the Irish Catholics, when the confusion of the present time should have passed away, to go forth and stand in the van, when the Catholic world would march to Rome to reinstate the Pope. England's hatred of Catholicity, which was at the bottom of her Italian sympathies, might yet be her ruin. An address to the Pope was adopted.

SELLING PEWS ILLEGAL.—The Leamington pew case was decided in the Court of Arches on Wednesday. The question is one of considerable importance to all incumbents. There had been a dispute as to the letting of the pews in All Saints' Church, Leamington Priors; and the appellant, the Rev. John Craig, the vicar, claimed some seventy-five seats as his own property. He now interposed to prevent the defendants, the churchwardens, from allotting the pews under an order of the Consistorial Court of Worcester. Sir R. Phillimore held that it was illegal to sell pews, and seats could not be disposed of except by Act of Parliament. He dismissed the appeal, and condemned Mr. Craig in costs.

CHURCH-RATE CONTENTION.—On Thursday, at the Judicial Committee, the case Smallbones v. Edney and Lunn was resumed and concluded. The churchwardens had borrowed 2,000*l.* by a vote of vestry to repair the parish church at Whitechurch, near Southampton, and Smallbones was called upon to pay the rate of 6*d.* in the pound, and his assessment was 4*s.* 3*d.* He disputed the validity of this rate. The churchwardens (Edney and Lunn) obtained judgment in the Arches Court, and hence the present appeal, which was before the Judicial Committee two days. The Queen's Advocate and Dr. Swabey argued that the rate was bad, and Dr. Tristram, for the churchwardens, supported it. The contention was whether on the construction of the Act 5 Geo. IV., cap. 36, it could be enforced. The 2,000*l.* was to be repaid at 100*t.* a year. Their lordships considered the question one of importance, and on the conclusion of the argument Lord Justice James said their lordships would consider their judgment.

THE REVISION OF THE BIBLE.—Canon Jebb has resigned his place in the Old Testament Company, first, because he thinks nothing but the most extreme necessity ought to urge a change of words and expressions in "the most perfect version ever known to the Church of God," and in an age like ours the change would be but a prelude to great unsettlement; secondly, because this most religious work ought to have been committed to none but members of the Church of England—"those to whom the keeping and interpretation of God's Word is specially entrusted, according to the will, as I firmly believe, of Christ Himself"; and also because of "the unhappy circumstances attendant upon the celebration of the Holy Communion in Westminster Abbey, when the most holy mysteries of our religion were approached by one who did not believe in the divinity of their institution." Canon Jebb says:—

I now perceive, with grief and alarm, the fulfilment of that which I apprehended from the beginning—that is, the establishment of a virtual equality, in the prosecution of a matter so very sacred, between the members of our Church and those external to her communion. It seems to be in effect declared that her maintenance of true Catholic doctrine, by which I mean the faith once delivered to the saints, has no necessary connection with sacred philology, which is an essential element of exegesis. I can hardly hope for God's blessing upon the adoption of a version, should that ever come to a completion, constituted upon principles so repugnant to the ancient methods of the Church.

ARCHBISHOP MANNING ON "THE TEMPORAL POWER."—A protest, in the shape of a pastoral letter for the first Sunday of Advent, has been addressed to the "clergy and laity of the diocese of Westminster" by Archbishop Manning against the siege and military occupation of Rome by the army of King Victor Emmanuel. The archbishop says:—"It is alleged that the national aspirations of Italy justify this seizure of Rome; that the temporal power of the Sovereign Pontiff has been lawfully dissolved by a plebiscite; and that the popular will has transferred the sovereignty of Rome to King Victor Emmanuel. We protest against these principles as subversive of public morality, order, and law. Nations, like individuals, are subject to moral obligations. They have the power to do wrong, but they cannot have the right to do wrong. To rise against a lawful Sovereign without just cause is rebellion; to depose him is treason." The protest further urges that, even if the right of sovereignty were liable to forfeiture by abuse or wrong, no such cause exists, or ever has existed, for throwing off the government of Pius IX. This rebellious act is in two ways a sacrilege: it is sacrilegious because it is a violence offered to the head of the Christian Church, and also because it is the breaking-up of the Christian order of the world, and the destruction of a providential disposition by which the Christian world has been both formed and sustained. Dr. Manning also declares, "upon evidence above all suspicion," his belief that the plebiscite was illusory. It was carried through after the bombardment of Rome, and in the midst of an invading army. The number of Roman citizens who voted was small; the number of voters who had no right to vote was great; and the result only expressed the momentary triumph of a sedition elaborately prepared for the

last forty years. The Archbishop concludes by exhorting the faithful to prepare themselves for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and to attend a public meeting to be held at St. James's Hall on Friday next, the 9th inst., for the purpose of expressing condemnation of the sacrilegious violation of the rights of the Holy See.

LORD PORTSMOUTH ON TOLERATION.—The Earl of Portsmouth presided at the annual examination of the North Tawton Middle-class School; and at the luncheon which followed, his lordship, in proposing the health of the Bishop of Exeter and all Christian ministers, said it was a matter of the greatest pleasure to him to see Churchmen and Nonconformists sitting down and meeting at the same table to testify to the interest they took in the great cause of education. He trusted that ere long we might see the benefits of the great and beneficent measure that had lately been passed. He hoped we might see at school boards Churchmen and Nonconformists meeting together, and cordially co-operating to promote education, and that we should find in the course of years that our fellow-countrymen were better Christians and better citizens, more fitted to wield the great power that had been put in their hands. His lordship said he had heard Mr. Motley, the American Minister, say, "I hate the word toleration, for it implies that one man bears with the opinion of another," and added, "Imagine one man tolerating the honest opinion of another man—I prefer modesty." The noble earl said that these words should be inscribed in letters of gold and treasured in the hearts of all those who loved religious liberty. He believed that if there was more modesty and less toleration we should be better neighbours and truer Christians. The Bishop of Exeter in responding said he had seen so much of education as to feel quite sure that the fear that a comprehensive school was therefore of necessity an irreligious school was a great mistake. He had known a great deal of elementary schools belonging to different religious bodies, and he was convinced for himself that in elementary schools the amount of what was called denominational teaching was exceedingly small. He believed that in the ordinary working of elementary schools, when they really knew the business, they would find that Churchmen and Nonconformists were far more agreed than they fancied, and he hoped that though they might differ in opinion from one another, yet they would, without compromising their opinions, be able to help children to grow up to be good Christian men and women by very hearty and glad co-operation with one another. The Rev. R. A. Bertram, Congregationalist minister at Barnstaple, also responded to the toast.

Religious and Denominational News.

Mr. Walter Baxendale, of Hackney College, has accepted the call to the pastorate of Claremont Chapel, Pentonville.

The Rev. Ralph Wardlaw Thompson, of Glasgow, has accepted a very harmonious invitation to the pastorate of Norwood Independent Church, Liverpool, and will commence his ministry there on 15th of January next.

The Rev. Henry Nisbet, agent of the London Missionary Society, and Mrs. Nisbet, arrived safely and well in Sydney on the 27th of September. In October they expected to sail for Samoa.

BELPER.—On Monday week a public meeting was held in the new school and class-rooms connected with the Congregational chapel, Belper, when addresses were delivered by the Revs. F. Knowles (pastor), W. Crosbie, M.A., LL.B. (Derby), J. Calvert, R. W. Pordige, F. J. Morgan; Messrs. J. Brown, T. Tomlinson, A. H. Brown, and others. The present building is the first instalment towards new church and schoolrooms which the friends contemplate erecting, the estimated cost of which is about 3,500*l.* Towards this sum 2,100*l.* is already given or promised, the church and congregation having raised 1,100*l.*, and friends outside 1,000*l.* The prospects of the enterprise are encouraging.

GRAVESEND.—On Wednesday, Nov. 16, a public recognition service was held in the Windmill-street Chapel, on the acceptance of the pastorate by Rev. J. Jackson Goadby, of Leicester. After tea in the schoolroom, which was very numerously attended, a public meeting was held in the chapel. In the absence, through illness, of the Rev. Johnson Barker, LL.B., of New College Chapel, London, Mr. A. Whibley presided. The Rev. A. Sturge, of Dartford, offered suitable prayer for pastor and people. Letters of warm congratulation were read from the Revs. Dr. Angus, Regent's Park College; H. H. Dobney, Maidstone; and T. Child, Sittingbourne. The Rev. Dr. Haycroft, of Leicester, being prevented through indisposition from fulfilling his promise to attend the meeting, forwarded a letter, expressing, "on behalf of the ministers and Christian churches in Leicester, as well as on his own account, their great personal respect for Mr. Goadby, and hearty good wishes for his success." Addresses were given by the Revs. W. Frith, Bexley Heath; J. M. Camp, Eynsford; J. Jackson Goadby; W. Guest, Gravesend; A. Sturge, and G. W. Shepherd.

BARNSTAPLE.—The new Independent chapel in this Devonshire town was opened on Wednesday week. It is erected on the site of the meeting-house in which worshipped a section of Congregational Dissenters who seceded from the original church, founded by the Rev. Jonathan Hanmer (one of the 2,000 ministers ejected from the Church of England in 1662 by the Act of Uniformity), and called to the pastorate the Rev. George Boucher in 1706. The chapel now replaced was erected in 1839, but it was

inconvenient and old-fashioned, and additional ground having been obtained, about twelve months since it appeared to the present pastor (Rev. R. A. Bertram) that the time was fully come when an effort should be made to enlarge the building. A meeting was held, and a long list of subscriptions, amounting to 1,000*l.*, was the liberal response. At the opening services the "dedicatory prayer" was offered by the Rev. David Hewitt, of Exeter, and a sermon was preached in the morning by the Rev. J. C. Harrison. The Mayor (William Thorne, Esq.) in his official robes, supported by Mr. Cave, M.P., and attended by aldermen and members of the Town Council, formed a procession at the Guildhall and walked from thence to the chapel, where seats were reserved for them. At the close of the service a collection was made, which amounted to 40*l.* A collation was afterwards served in the Music Hall. The Earl of Portsmouth contributed a haunch of venison with a characteristic note. Thomas Cave, Esq., M.P., presided. Mr. Alderman Guppy, a member of the congregation, read the financial statement. He said, it appeared that the total cost of the new building, including the addition to the site, was from 2,100*l.* to 2,200*l.*, and towards this sum 1,402*l.* 16*s.* had been received in subscriptions, leaving a balance to be raised of about 700*l.* or 800*l.* Mr. James Rooker, of Bideford, proposed the preachers of the day, which was responded to by the Rev. J. C. Harrison, the morning preacher, and Dr. Stoughton, who was about to take the evening service. The toast of the Mayor and Corporation received a very cordial and liberal response from the Mayor, who said he had subscribed to many of the chapels in the town, and he did hold up as an example to the Church of England the excellent manner in which the Dissenters of the borough of Barnstaple had carried out their work and shown their zeal in the profession of religion. The chairman gave the clergy and ministers of all denominations. It was sometimes asked, he said, what had denominationalism done for us? These were days of stirring interest, and such important events were now taking place that Churchmen must look about them. He was indeed thankful that there were other denominations which would be a refuge for Churchmen in case of the Anglican Church going astray either in one direction or the other. The Rev. J. P. Carey, Baptist minister, responded. The usual complimentary toasts followed. In the evening the chapel was crowded to hear Dr. Stoughton, of Kensington, who preached from Gal. ii. 20. The collections amounted to over 100*l.* The chapel is in the "German Gothic" style, and is much admired.

TORQUAY.—The new Congregational church at Torquay called Belgrave Church was opened on Thursday morning week. The temporary church in which the congregation has worshipped for three years and a half, was erected by the zeal of two or three gentlemen, who considered that the interests of Congregationalism in Torquay required more than one charge. Shortly after this temporary building was erected the committee of the church were fortunate in securing the Rev. Robert Vaughan, D.D., as the pastor, under whose wise influence the organisation of a church upon Congregational principles was completed, and who, during the short period of his ministry drew together a congregation which under the trying influences of two years' non-pastoral supervision has remained compact and united. In the beginning of the present year the Rev. R. Bulmer, of Reading, was invited to the pastorate, and he entered upon his duties in August last. It was then resolved to build a new place of worship, which is an ornament to the neighbourhood, and will be graced with a tower. Accommodation is provided for upwards of 1,000 persons, 700 on the ground floor and about 300 in the galleries. The whole of the works have been carried out from the designs and under the direction of Mr. J. W. Rowell, architect. The total outlay on the building, including the cost of the site, has been nearly 6,000*l.* More than half the amount has been raised, and a debt of 2,530*l.* remains. At the opening service in the new building there was a large congregation, including ministers in Torquay, and from neighbouring towns. The dedicatory prayer was offered by the Rev. C. Wilson, M.A., of Plymouth, and the Rev. R. Bulmer and the Rev. W. Garret Horder, of Abbey-road Chapel, also took part in the devotional exercises. The sermon was preached by the Rev. A. Raleigh, D.D., of London. A cold collation was afterwards provided at the Union Hotel, Mr. T. Eccles presiding. In an introductory speech the chairman described the origin of the church, and referred to the liberal donations that had been received towards the church both from a Church of England clergyman, from Nonconformists, and even from Roman Catholics. He tendered the best thanks of the assembly to Dr. Raleigh and the Rev. J. C. Harrison for their kindness in taking part in the opening services. Dr. Raleigh and the Rev. J. C. Harrison responded. The Chairman next proposed the health of the Rev. R. Bulmer, of whom he spoke in high terms. The Rev. R. Bulmer said he had looked forward to this day with very considerable hope and not a little trembling. Now they were anticipating the enlargement of their borders, the sympathy and kind feeling expressed by their friends were all the more welcome. The Rev. N. Parkyn, Mr. Rooker (of Plymouth), the W. G. Horder, and the Rev. E. Edwards (Baptist) also spoke. The Rev. C. Wilson, M.A., of Plymouth, on behalf of the Nonconformist ministers of South Devon tendered the Rev. R. Bulmer a hearty welcome. The cost of erection of the Belgrave Church was stated to be 6,000*l.*, which made a sum of nearly 40,000*l.* expended by the Congregationalists of South Devon within a comparatively short period in the work of building and enlarging schools and chapels. Professor Anthony followed. A vote of thanks to the

chairman and to the ladies brought the proceedings to a close. In the evening the church was crowded, nearly 1,000 persons being present, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. The Rev. E. Edwards and the Rev. C. B. Symes, of Plymouth, took part in the opening portion of the service. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. C. Harrison, of London. The collections at the conclusion of the two services amounted to 160*l.*

MADAGASCAR.—The Children's Memorial Church, built by Mr. Cameron at Farovohitra, on the spot where four nobles were burnt, has for some time been occupied by the congregation, whose members could not be accommodated in the schoolroom close by. This, the third of the memorial churches, was specially dedicated to the worship of God on Thursday, September 15th. The Queen, unable herself to be present, sent eleven of her chief officers, preceded by a military band, to attend the service. These officers wore rich lambas of brocade and other European silks, trimmed with gold and other fringes. After singing a hymn adapted to Dr. Mason's tune, "God is love," Ravanahitriariavo, fifteen Honours, delivered the Queen's message thanking the missionaries for teaching her people, building churches, &c. Mr. Pearce then read a statement respecting the erection of the church, and the dollar of allegiance was paid by three members of the congregation. The usual service was then proceeded with, Mr. W. E. Cousins offering the dedicatory prayer, one of the students at the theological seminary and Mr. Briggs being the morning preachers, another of the students and Mr. Sewell the preachers in the afternoon. The crowded audiences listened most attentively to a clear exposition of the things which Christ taught, and the importance of giving heed to them, in the morning; and in the afternoon to a discourse on the words, "The kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost." The engagements excited considerable attention throughout the capital. At an early hour the Queen's flag was hoisted on the top of the great palace, and many was seen wending their way towards the newly erected temple. The day will be a red-letter day in the calendar of the Malagasy Christians; it is hoped the many who came together recounted their merciful deliverance from a reign of terror, and their present happy prospects under the benign sway of their present Sovereign. The Queen has appointed Thursday week for the dedication of the Amparibi Church, at which service the Queen and Court will be present. A temporary gallery has been erected for the accommodation of the Queen, the Prime Minister, with their immediate attendants; the remaining members of the Court will occupy the gallery behind the minister's platform.—*Letter in English Independent.* The *Monthly Chronicle of the London Missionary Society* says:—"The Rev. R. Toy, recently returned from Madagascar, in a letter dated November 15, writes as follows:—"It is said that the Queen and Government [of Madagascar] are desirous that a bishop for Madagascar should be appointed, and a church established at the capital; that they were disappointed last year at the non-arrival of the bishop; and that every Sunday the Prayer-book is used at the service held inside the palace. Now, in this there is not one word of truth. The Prayer-book is not nor ever has been used in the palace. There was no disappointment whatever that no bishop arrived last year, from the fact that no bishop was required."

Correspondence.

MODERN METHODS OF PERSECUTION BY THE GODLY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Will you allow me to state one example of persecution by the saints, and to commend the victim to the sympathy of your readers? There is a sea-side town in England where a Christian lady, who kept a school for the daughters of gentlemen, embraced some opinions on the limitation of future punishment, and on the source of human immortality, which are not quite orthodox. This good woman was a regular Shunamite, and was the chief support of the small and poor Church to which she belonged—a sort of semi-brethrenist gathering, taught by a very worthy and able man, who in his turn had left all for his Master, the Truth. No sooner was the opinion of this lady known to the Plymouthians than they set to work to influence the parents of the pupils against her by false descriptions of her belief—such as that she held the notion of the dissipation of souls at the death of the body, &c., and generally they raised an outcry against her, although it was admitted that her character was spotless, and the secular education given was about the best in the neighbourhood. Well, the result has been the withdrawal of every pupil, and the total ruin of the establishment. The lady is reduced to absolute want; and if any of your readers will render some help and will entrust me with their kind remittances, I can assure them that they will thereby succour a brave, good woman in an hour of dire extremity, when godly persons, who believe in endless suffering, are trying to starve her into their views of the character of Divine mercy.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

EDWARD WHITE.

P.S.—My address is Brathay House, Tufnell-park, Holloway, N., the nearest post-office, Leighton-road, Kentish Town.

A PLEA FOR RATE-AIDED SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL BOARDS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Notwithstanding the influential meetings lately held in several large towns on the subject of the Education Act, to urge upon the landowners and occupiers of the country a course of action which, though undoubtedly excellent, yet seems to fall far short of the extended objects of the Act of the national legislature, I beg very respectfully to be permitted to press the value and importance, and, in many cases, the absolute necessity, of school rates and school boards upon the earnest and candid consideration of all concerned. If we will but look at the whole question apart from political and sectarian jealousies, I think the justice and prudence of all will in the end perceive but one possible issue.

First, look at that which we cannot possibly escape. The Act is passed, and it must be obeyed. Now, its title and object sweep away a thousand delusions. It is entitled, "An Act to provide for public elementary education in England and Wales," and its object, as set forth in Clause 5, is in brief, "to provide efficient and suitable elementary education for all the children of every district." Therefore, so far, it is no longer what we will have, or won't have, but what we must have, and must do. Now, the consequent requirements will be most easily and fully considered by a division into three heads which I propose to treat separately:—(1). *Necessary school buildings*; (2). *Necessary annual maintenance*; (3). *Attendance of children*. It is evident at once that any proposed plan for our obedience to the Act is unsatisfactory and delusive which does not embrace all these three.

(1). *School Buildings*.—By Clause 3, these include not merely a room, but "teacher's dwelling-house and playground (if any), and the offices and all premises belonging to or required for a school." Her Majesty's Inspectors or others will soon report on the existence or non-existence, the efficiency or non-efficiency, of all these in every parish and borough. If such do not exist, or existing, if they be not efficient, they must forthwith be supplied, and made efficient. Again, I repeat, the choice is not left to ourselves. It is necessary, it is inevitable, it must be. Now, to supply these, Government, if applied to before December 31, may (it is not certain) help to a limited extent; but it limited help, if given at all, will only be given to meet local contributions raised in, or by, or for the parishes. Here certain public meetings step in, and most liberal and generous subscriptions are given with the best of intentions. But when these subscriptions reach their utmost limit, it is not probable that they will be one tithe of what is required; or, if they be, it is more than probable that, in respect of our next point of consideration they will prove in the result to be an unwise and imprudent sacrifice. This will be more clear by what follows.

(2). *Annual School Maintenance*.—Supposing that the subscriptions of the county meetings reach ten times the amount at which they are now advertised, what will they effect for the whole country? Either they will be funded, or not. If funded, the interest would not yield 1*l.* per annum to a quarter of the parishes; if not funded, the principal will be consumed in merely building schools, not maintaining them, and that, of course, in places too poor, or too unwilling, to build or maintain voluntarily for themselves; so that the schools so built will, equally with all others, have to meet the grave and ever-recurring annual question of maintenance; while, far more than all others, they will run the risk of being handed over to school boards through sheer exhaustion. Thus the meetings alluded to wholly leave the parishes to settle this matter of annual maintenance every year as best they can, and lay up the gifts of their subscribers for school boards, which they were intended to prevent. Now, let us not be deceiving ourselves. How much have the large landowners and occupiers done on this voluntary system hitherto, that we should expect from them, henceforth, regular and willing help? It is scandalously notorious, that all over the kingdom, many large owners and occupiers have been deaf to all appeals, and have given either nothing or a paltry dole to this great cause of education. Are the willing contributors, and is the education of the masses, ever to be left to such tender mercies? Or, can a regular need be supplied by such grudging and precarious provision? Moreover, it is quite certain that many Churchmen and Dissenters, who have hitherto been annual subscribers to schools, because there was no other means of educating the poor, will now withdraw such annual help, because a much broader and fairer system can at length be adopted, by which all may take their due part at once in the burden of payment and the privilege of control. The remaining voluntary supporters of schools will thus, in spite of their best endeavours, be doubly charged. But, still further, the voluntary subscribers will, henceforth, be required to give yet additional sums, in order to supply the extra accommodation and maintenance that will be needed for the contemplated efficiency of the schools. And when to all this be added, the grave possibility, that any year all Government grant whatsoever to denominational schools (depending entirely as it does on a mere annual vote, which a large party in the House are pledged to oppose), may, any year, be withdrawn to the dead loss of all schools not under school boards, then, I

think, we have a prospect so alarming for the comparatively few voluntary subscribers in the kingdom, and one so likely to encumber them with most unjust and most unnecessary liabilities, as to compel them to inquire what adequate and lasting remedy other than rate-aided schools can be proposed?

Then (3), *Attendance of Children*.—If the Education Act has an object at all, it is to educate all the children of the poor. But how shall they be educated if they do not attend school? Now, hitherto, all old means have failed to bring large numbers of children to school (else where was the need of the Act?) and without school boards, there are no new means. But with school boards there are means most admirably adapted to the end in view. By Clause 74, every school board is empowered to make most efficient, and yet most just and moderate, bye-laws for the compulsory attendance of children between five and thirteen years of age, relieving at the same time very poor parents from all payment, suiting the times of attendance to the needs of a neighbourhood, agricultural or otherwise, dealing tenderly with cases of conscience, and exempting children who have already attained a certain standard of education. What provisions can any other authority make like these? None whatever. In other words, school boards alone can carry out the intentions of the Legislature.

Therefore, to sum up. Seeing that every parish and borough must henceforth have sufficient and efficient school buildings, sufficient and efficient annual school maintenance, and should educate all the children of every district, the parishes and boroughs have to decide, or rather the few, and already overburdened voluntary subscribers, have to decide this: Will they, and can they, solely, at their own cost, or with the very sparing help they can possibly get from outsiders equally burdened, wholly unaided by the other many large and able, but hitherto non-subscribing owners and occupiers throughout the country—will they, and can they so defray all these immediate and annual large and increased expenses? Or will they not rather see that a grand national object, which is exclusive of all sect and party, necessarily demands by its very magnitude a national effort, not the puny efforts of the few and well-disposed of one Church or party, and that all the necessary and inevitable expenses will be most easily, and most fitly, and most thoroughly met by all ratepayers "sharing and sharing alike," every one lending, according to his position, his helping hand?

Yours, &c.,

JOHN B. McCLELLAN.

Bottisham Vicarage, Nov. 22, 1870.

PRUSSIA AND THE WAR.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I have been a reader of your paper for very many years, and though differing from you on many points, and holding opinions contrary to yours on many questions, I still am much pleased with your manly and straightforward utterances. But, since the commencement of the present war, you appear to me to show a bias and prejudice very much in favour of Prussia. Not perhaps in so many words, but by implication, you seem to throw the whole blame of the war upon the French people. Now, recent disclosures have shown that they are not in anywise answerable for it. The declaration of war was the work of the Emperor, possibly deluded by a corrupt crew of courtiers, and the enthusiasm apparently of Paris, but which was mainly the work of Pietri and his hired ruffians. The reports of the various prefects show unmistakably that the people were for peace. But let that pass. What I differ so much with you is, that I see by your silence upon the barbarous conduct of the German soldiers—burning whole villages, shooting their innocent inhabitants, and otherwise acting in the most brutal manner—that your sympathies are strongly with Prussia. Probably also you have a high estimate of Bismark's honesty and truthfulness, for in your leading article of November 23, you say, "It is not true that Count Bismark was any party to the menacing despatch of Prince Gortschakoff."

How is it possible that you or anybody else can thus pronounce dogmatically upon a fact which no one can know except the parties themselves. Denial of Bismark! Fudge. Other persons with quite as good means as yourself of judging, are of quite a contrary opinion, and say, judging from the antecedents of Bismark, that it may be true, though they do not go so far as to emphasise and say it is true.

Again, in your paper of the 30th, you say, "But as we intimated last week, Prince Gortschakoff's first Note was a great surprise and trouble to Count Bismark, who immediately proposed to mediate between the various Powers." It is announced from Versailles that "a settlement of the Russian difficulty may be hoped for soon on the basis of a conference, to be held at London, and the withdrawal of the Russian Note." Very likely indeed! Of course, it suited the astute German to affect surprise, and a conference would do well to gain a little time, especially as France did not seem to be ready to give in just yet. As to the withdrawal of the Note, people will believe that when it is done, not before.

Did it never occur to you that, independent of the close relationship between the Czar and the King of

Prussia, there was, from the coincidence of opinion of the two diplomatists, strong grounds for supposing they knew a little of each other's minds. I do not say it was so, but it might be so. As your opinion of Bismark is, I conceive, very elevated, perhaps you might see what others think of him. For this purpose I would refer you to the article of the Two Wolves, in the *Saturday Review*, Nov. 26; and the last number of the *Pall Mall Budget*; perhaps also a look at Bismark and Bismarkism, as written by Mr. Harrison in the *Fortnightly Review* may cause you to consider twice before you again emphasise the truth or falsehood of what he (Bismark) utters to the world.

Yours, &c.,

M. WILLIAMS.

Merthyr Tydvil, Dec. 3, 1870.

[The complaints we have received from both sides give us the impression that we have been fairly impartial. We have neglected no opportunity of recording "Prussian brutalities," though isolated acts of cruelty should not be charged upon a nation that has treated with great consideration more than 300,000 prisoners. Without placing any more confidence in Count Bismark than our correspondent, we believe he has, in the case referred to, acted loyally to England, if only because it was the interest of Prussia to do so, and we have endeavoured to show elsewhere that Germany is not likely to go hand and glove with Russia. Our positive language in respect to the Prussian Chancellor was deliberately selected as expressing sure information in our possession; albeit it did not come direct from Versailles.—Ed. Noncon.]

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

The following is a list of the candidates who have passed the recent Second M.B. Examination for Honours:—

MEDICINE.—First Class: John Curnow, King's College, scholarship and gold medal; *James Pearson Irvine, B.A., B.Sc., University College, gold medal; Richard Lawton Roberts, University College. Second Class: John Mitchell Bruce, M.A. Aberdeen, University of Aberdeen; William Frederick Richardson Burgess, Guy's Hospital; John De Liefde, Guy's Hospital; Frederick Pollard, St. Thomas's Hospital; and Edward Cox Seaton, St. Thomas's Hospital—all equal. Third Class: Charles Henry Carter, B.A., University College, and Richard Thomas Smith, University College, equal.

OBSTETRIC MEDICINE.—First Class: John Curnow, King's College, scholarship and gold medal; *William Frederick Richardson Burgess, Guy's Hospital, gold medal; Frederick Pollard, St. Thomas's Hospital; Edward Cox Seaton, St. Thomas's Hospital; Charles Henry Carter, University College; John De Liefde, Guy's Hospital. Second Class: James Pearson Irvine, University College; Edgar George Barnes, St. George's Hospital. Third Class: Arthur William Smith, Guy's Hospital; Richard Thomas Smith, University College.

FORENSIC MEDICINE.—First Class: John Mitchell Bruce, University of Aberdeen, scholarship and gold medal; William Frederick Richardson Burgess, Guy's Hospital, gold medal. Second class: James Pearson Irvine, University College, and Arthur William Smith, Guy's Hospital, equal. Third Class: Charles Henry Carter, University College; John Curnow, King's College; Edward Cox Seaton, St. Thomas's Hospital.

* Obtained the number of marks qualifying for the scholarship.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

The following are the official returns of the metropolitan divisions:—

CITY OF LONDON.

Rev. W. Rogers..... 6,847	Mr. Alderman Cotton 4,826
Mr. Sam Morley, M.P. 5,242	Mr. W. Sutton Gover 4,753
Mr. G. W. Hastings 3,579	Mr. H. E. Knight... 2,158
Rev. Chas. Mackenzie 3,108	Mr. John Chubb..... 875

MARYLEBONE.—7

Miss Garrett..... 47,858	Dr. Joseph Angus 11,472
Professor Huxley... 13,494	Mr. E. J. Hutchins 9,253
Rev. W. A. Thorold, M.A. 12,186	Mr. Hepworth Dixon 9,031
Mr. Arthur Mill... 7,927	Mr. James Watson 8,355
Mr. F. Sharp Powell 7,852	Dr. J. Edmunds... 3,973
Mr. Wm. Whelpton 5,759	Mr. George Verey 2,130
Sir S. H. Waterlow 4,944	Mr. J. F. Stanford 1,486
Mr. M. A. Garvey 4,933	Dr. George Wyld 334
Mr. J. J. P. Marshall 4,693	Mr. J. T. H. Dunn 258
Mr. J. J. Guedalla 4,635	Dr. T. G. Brewer 103
Mr. W. R. Cremer 4,402	Mr. Wm. Beare... 62

HACKNEY.—5.

Mr. C. Reed, M.P. 12,477	Mr. J. H. Crossman 7,481
Mr. William Green 8,472	Rev. J. A. Picton 5,781
Mr. T. B. Smithies 7,983	
Rev. S. Haneard... 5,660	Mr. John Runtz... 2,563
Sir T. F. Buxton... 5,047	Mr. R. G. Clements 1,753
Mr. John Hales... 5,019	Rev. E. F. Coke... 863
Rev. W. Lockhart... 4,145	Mr. G. F. Pardon 160
Mr. A. Sonnenschein 3,785	Mr. R. C. Wood... 33
Rev. John Oakley 3,361	

TOWER HAMLETS.—5.

Mr. E. H. Currie... 26,408	Mr. E. N. Buxton 17,866
Mr. W. Pearce... 20,866	Mr. A. Langdale... 11,666
Mr. T. Scrutton... 19,404	
Mr. F. Young... 4,972	Mr. H. D. Jeffries 1,079
Mr. H. C. Clements 1,983	Mr. J. M. Mathias 737
Dr. Bowkett... 1,753	

FINSBURY.—6.

Mr. E. J. Tabram 27,823	Mr. T. C. Clarke... 7,847
Mr. Torrens, M.P. 10,766	Sir F. Lyceott..... 6,137
Rev. J. Rogers..... 8,690	Mr. B. Lucraft..... 5,963
Mr. C. H. Lovell... 4,953	Mr. John Sands... 3,903
Mr. Hugh Owen... 4,378	Mr. E. Mirams... 3,122
Mr. W. Rivington 3,674	Mr. J. R. Morrison 844
Mr. F. J. Hartley... 3,286	Mr. F. Tomkins... 796
Mr. C. H. Hopwood 3,278	

WESTMINSTER.—5.

Mr. W. Hy. Smith 13,603	Rev. J. H. Rigg... 5,723
Viscount Sandon... 7,119	Mr. Chas. E. Mudie 4,874
Rev. Alfred Barry 6,057	
Lord Howard of Glossop..... 4,310	Lord Fitzmaurice... 1,145
Mr. George Potter 4,309	Mr. G. W. Martin 1,137
Sir Chas. Trevelyan 1,621	Rev. J. H. Barber 1,096
	Mr. George Shipton 793

CHELSEA.—4.

Canon Cromwell... 9,783	Mr. G. M. Kiell... 7,763
Lord Lawrence..... 8,254	Mr. R. Freeman... 7,133
Mrs. Grey..... 7,025	Mr. T. S. Snell... 1,681
Dr. Gladstone... 6,590	Mr. J. Osborne... 610
Mr. E. S. Dale... 4,238	Mr. W. A. Davy... 113
Mr. W. Harry... 2,073	

LAMBETH.—5.

Mr. Stiff... 22,101	Mr. A. M'Arthur 11,963
Mr. J. E. Tresidder 10,676	Mr. Charles Few 10,549
Sir T. Tison... 14,574	
Rev. G. M. Murphy 8,432	Mr. W. R. Selway 3,419
Rev. F. Tagwell... 7,830	Mr. Mottershead... 3,163
Mr. E. Applegarth 7,682	Mr. J. Gibbons..... 1,473
Mr. M. D. Kavanagh 4,824	Mr. S. Shaen... 918
Mr. Charles White 3,976	

SOUTHWARK.—4.

Mee, Rev. J. 5,835	Mr. J. Wallace..... 5,083
Mr. A. Lafone..... 5,711	Mr. B. Ingle..... 4,920
Mr. W. Rendle..... 2,929	Mr. E. Stafford... 1,254
Mr. C. Robinson... 2,891	Rev. J. Sinclair..... 785
Mr. E. H. Bayley 1,653	Mr. W. E. Baxter 151
Mr. A. Side... 1,627	Mr. C. Herring... 127
Mr. F. J. Clements 1,329	

GREENWICH.—4.

Miss Emily Davies 10,061	Rev. Dr. Miller... 7,296
Rev. J. MacGregor 7,828	Mr. B. Waugh... 7,143
Mr. W. S. Barnett 2,528	Mr. W. Lemon..... 3,737
Mr. Floyd... 2,779	Mr. G. Offer... 4,525
Rev. J. M. Glenie 6,250	Mr. W. W. Stanger 1,719
Mr. F. Johnson... 4,762	Mr. G. White... 4,125

The following is an alphabetical list of the members of the Board, and the divisions for which they are returned:—

Members.	Divisions.
Rev. Dr. Angus...	Marylebone
Rev. Dr. Barry...	Westminster
Mr. E. N. Buxton...	Tower Hamlets
Mr. T. C. Clarke...	Finsbury
Mr. Alderman Cotton...	City of London
Rev. Canon Cromwell...	Chelsea
Mr. J. H. Crossman...	Hackney
Mr. E. H. Currie...	Tower Hamlets
Miss Emily Davies...	Greenwich
Mr. Hepworth Dixon...	Marylebone
Mr. Charles Few...	Lambeth
Mr. R. Freeman...	Chelsea
Miss Garrett...	Marylebone
Mr. W. S. Gover...	City of London
Mr. W. Green...	Hackney
Mr. E. J. Hutchins...	Marylebone
Professor Huxley...	Marylebone
Mr. J. B. Ingle...	Southwark
Mr. G. M. Kiell...	Chelsea
Mr. A. Lafone...	Southwark
Mr. A. Langdale...	Tower Hamlets
Lord Lawrence...	Chelsea
Mr. B. Lucraft...	Finsbury
Sir F. Lyceott...	Finsbury
Mr. M'Arthur...	Lambeth
Mr. M'Gregor...	Greenwich
Rev. J. Mee...	Southwark
Rev. Dr. Miller...	Greenwich
Mr. S. Morley, M.P.	City of London
Mr. C. E. Mudie...	Westminster
Mr. W. Pearce...	Tower Hamlets
Rev. J. A. Picton...	Hackney
Mr. O. Reed, M.P.	Hackney
Rev. Dr. Rigg...	Westminster
Rev. J. Rogers...	Finsbury
Rev. W. Rogers...	City of London
Lord Sandon, M.P.	Westminster
Mr. T. Scrutton...	Tower Hamlets
Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P.	Westminster
Mr. T. B. Smithies...	Hackney
Mr. Stiff...	Lambeth
Mr. E. J. Tabram...	Finsbury
Rev. Prebendary Thorold...	Marylebone
Sir Thomas Tison...	Lambeth
Mr. M'C. Torrens, M.P.	Finsbury
Mr. Tresidder...	Lambeth
Mr. J. Wallace...	Southwark
Mr. James Watson...	Marylebone
Rev. B. Waugh...	Greenwich

ANALYSIS OF THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

The Record gives the following analysis of the opinions and status of the members of the board:—

OPINIONS AS TO RELIGIOUS TEACHING.

Favourable to religious teaching...	36
Roman Catholics...	3
Uncertain as to religious teaching...	10
	49

DENOMINATIONS.

Church of England (four doubtful)...	26
Roman Catholics...	3
Nonconformists...	20
	49

POSITION IN LIFE.

Peers...	1
M.P.'s...	5
Church of England clergymen...	7
Nonconformist ministers...	4

Ladies	2
Knights	2
Barriers	2
Literary Men	4
Architect	1
Civil Servant	1
Mercantile Men	19
Working Man	1
49	

The London School Board will hold its first meeting next Thursday week, December 15. Its first proceeding will probably be the election of a chairman. Lord Lawrence, Mr. McCullagh Torrens, M.P. for Finsbury, and Mr. Charles Reed, M.P. for Hackney, are, we understand, candidates for the appointment.

From most of the metropolitan divisions there have been complaints that hundreds of voters, who came late to the poll, though before eight p.m., were unable to record their votes in consequence of the inadequate arrangements.

Dr. Gladstone, F.R.S., has protested against the validity of Chelsea election; and it reported that the friends of Mr. Thos. George Snell are in possession of evidence to prove that grave and serious delinquencies have been committed by the committeemen of two of the candidates returned. They also allege irregularities against some of the presiding officers.

Mr. Kavanagh, the Roman Catholic candidate at the School Board election in the Lambeth district, has forwarded to the Recorder a protest against the validity of the election on the ground of various irregularities in the mode of conducting the election. At a large meeting of Roman Catholic ratepayers, held on Saturday night at the schoolrooms at the St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, Mr. Kavanagh stated that he intended to secure the services of the Solicitor-General, and that he would pursue the matter to the end. A resolution was adopted protesting against the illegality of the election, and thanking Mr. Kavanagh for his determination to follow the matter up.

The Rev. G. M. Murphy, one of the unsuccessful candidates for the Lambeth division of the London School Board, has protested to the returning officer against the validity of the election. He says:—"Believing the returns as published to be illegal, fallacious, and unjust, I shall be obliged by an early intimation as to how the return is to be properly challenged, so that, if the stated irregularities are proved to be true, an honest and proper election may take place." Mr. George Potter, in returning thanks to his friends and supporters in Westminster, for the 4,210 votes given to him as a candidate for the school board, assures them that the effort made to secure his return would have been successful, had not several hundreds of his friends been prevented from recording their votes in his favour, 120 of whom would have been sufficient to have secured his return, providing they could have polled between 6-45 and 8 o'clock. It is rumoured that the school board election for the Chelsea division will be immediately challenged, on the grounds of alleged corruption and intimidation of voters, and the leaving of several of the ballot-boxes entirely without protection.

THE PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS.

ABERYSTWYTH.—The first school board election in Wales took place on Tuesday, at Aberystwyth. There were elected three Churchmen, two Calvinistic Methodists, one Independent, and one Baptist.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Liberal party have sustained a partial defeat, and it is remarkable as the first reverse experienced by the party in Birmingham for very many years. They attempted to carry the whole of their list of fifteen, but the cumulative vote was so worked by the Church party that the latter have got in all their eight candidates. The Roman Catholics plumped to a man, and their candidate heads the poll. The following is the official list:—Elected candidates:—the Rev. Canon O'Sullivan, Roman Catholic, 35,720 votes; S. S. Lloyd, Church of England, 30,799; the Rev. Dr. Burgess, Church of England, 21,925; the Rev. Dr. Wilkinson, Church of England, 19,829; John Gough, Church of England, 17,491; the Rev. F. S. Dale, Church of England, 17,365; G. Dawson, Unattached, 17,103; G. Dixon, M.P., Church of England, 16,897; R. W. Dale, Independent, 16,387; C. Vince, Baptist, 15,943; J. S. Hopkins, Church of England, 15,696; W. L. Sargent, Church of England, 15,683; Joseph Chamberlain, Unitarian, 15,090; J. S. Wright, Baptist, 15,007; A. J. Elkington, Church of England, 14,925. Unsuccessful candidates:—G. B. Lloyd, Society of Friends, 14,642; the Rev. H. W. Holland, Wesleyan, 14,359; W. Middlemore, Baptist, 14,332; George Baker, Society of Friends, 14,101; Jesse Collings, Unitarian, 13,873; J. A. Cooper, Independent, 13,872; the Rev. H. W. Crosskey, Unitarian, 13,814; the Ven. Archdeacon Sandford, Church of England, 13,202; W. Radford, Baptist, 12,515; J. B. Melson, Wesleyan, 11,017; D. Kirkwood, Secularist, 7,095; Dr. S. Evans, Church of England, 5,351; J. Raffles, unknown, 2,060.

BOOTLE.—The election took place on Wednesday. There were twelve candidates for nine seats. Five Churchmen, two Nonconformists, and two Roman Catholics were elected.

BRIDGWATER SCHOOL BOARD.—The result of the polling for the school board at Bridgwater has been the return of three Churchmen and four Nonconformists. Some of the Nonconformists celebrated the victory by firing cannon, and a labourer, named Hawks, was mortally wounded by the bursting of one. He died yesterday evening in the Infirmary.

COVENTRY.—Seven candidates pledged to 'unsectarian education'—that is, Bible-reading without note or comment—were nominated by the Liberal Association, and of these six were elected—namely, Mr. John Gulson, a former Mayor of the city and a Churchman, with 4,162 votes; Mr. John Rotherham (Churchman), with 2,795 votes; Mr. Alderman W. H. Hill, with 2,635 votes; Mr. John Bill, with 2,629 votes; Mr. William Franklin (Baptist), with 2,500 votes; Mr. Lawrence S. Booth (working-man and a Dissenter), with 2,482 votes. Of the seven candidates nominated by the Conservative party, and who were pledged to Bible-teaching, only three were returned—Mr. Alderman Lynes, banker, with 2,375 votes; Mr. Dennis Barnes, auctioneer, with 2,375 votes; and Mr. Frederick Bird, druggist, with 2,261 votes. The Roman Catholics nominated Mr. Edw. Petre, and he was returned by 3,854 votes, the second highest number polled. The remaining candidate elected—making up the full complement of eleven, which is the number of the Board—was Mr. William Odell, jun., who is pledged to having "the Gospels thoroughly taught." The result of the election is considered a gain to the Liberal party, who have had a majority of their nominees placed on the board.

AT MIDDLESBOROUGH, the board consists of four Churchmen, one Wesleyan, two supporters of the Education League, and two gentlemen who acted independently.

NOTTINGHAM.—The following were the successful candidates:—The Rev. H. Wright, rector of St. Nicholas (6,930); Mr. Charles Paget, Unitarian, formerly M.P. for the borough (6,415); Mr. Thurlow, Church schoolmaster (6,291); the Rev. Mr. Dwyer, Roman Catholic priest (5,494); Mr. T. Bentley, Churchman (5,079); Mr. J. S. Browne, Churchman (4,295); Mr. Lewis, Wesleyan (3,559); Mr. W. G. Ward, Churchman (3,561); Mr. E. Gripper, Quaker (3,146); the Rev. F. Morse, vicar of St. Mary's, mother church of the town (3,377); Dr. Lory Marsh, Churchman (2,815); Mr. G. B. Rothera, Baptist (2,680); and Mr. Smith, working man's candidate (2,485). The above list shows that seven Churchmen and six Dissenters were elected.

OXFORD.—The opposition of the Church party at Oxford to the adoption of the Elementary Education Act, which the Local Board had agreed to, has assumed a formidable shape, and as led to an investigation, by order of Mr. Forster, into the state of education at Oxford. With this view the managers, masters, or mistresses of schools there have been served with a notice which requires a mass of information to be delivered forthwith to the Local Board, on which, no doubt, the question for a school board or Oxford will depend.

ROCHDALE.—At the election of the Rochdale School Board, the Right Hon. John Bright, who is living at the Ash, near that town, appeared at the polling booths and voted in favour of the seven Liberals and four Conservatives nominated at the town's meeting. Five Conservatives and six Liberals were elected—the Rev. Mr. Moriarty, a Catholic priest, being at the head of the poll. The different religious denominations are represented in the following proportions:—Churchmen, 4; Wesleyan, 1; United Methodist Free Church, 2; Independent, 1; Unitarian, 1; Roman Catholic, 1; no denomination, 1.

SALFORD.—The returns of the Salford School Board election shows the following results:—Seven Churchmen, three Wesleyans, two Roman Catholics, one Independent, one Swedenborgian, and one Free Church Methodist. The lady candidate, Mrs. Plant, met with little support.

SHEFFIELD.—The following are the successful candidates:—Mr. J. Ellison (Catholic), H. Wilson (Churchman), C. Wardlaw (Wesleyan), W. Cobby (Wesleyan), T. Moore (Churchman), M. Firth (New Connexion), S. Cole (Wesleyan), C. Doncaster (Quaker), W. Fisher (Unitarian), Sir John Brown (Churchman), R. W. Holden (Primitive Methodist), D. Fairbairn (Wesleyan), J. Crossland (Churchman), A. Allott (Independent), R. T. Eddon (Unitarian). No working man has been returned.

AT STOCKTON, two Churchmen, a Wesleyan, a Roman Catholic, and two independent candidates were elected.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Here the contest was between religious teachers and unsectarian teachers. The first had put forward seven Churchmen; the others, advocated by the League, put forward four candidates, including a working man's representative. Of the seven associated Churchmen four were returned, and of the League candidates two, the working man's candidate being rejected, but standing twelfth upon the poll. Of the other five, two—a Churchman and a Dissenter—go with the League, though contesting separately; the two Wesleyans go for religious teaching; the Roman Catholic candidate stood alone. More than one half of the voters on the Burgess-roll polled.

THE WEST OF ENGLAND.—In the west there have been several rather excited meetings during the past week. At Bideford, on Thursday, the Vicar of Northam in the chair, party feeling ran high, the meeting being divided between a school board and the voluntary system. In three hours' discussion it was contended, on the one hand, that voluntarism meant denominationalism, with its attendant unpleasantness, and, therefore, a school board would be most satisfactory; and, on the other hand, that voluntarism was preferable to a school board, which would be unjust, unnecessary, and expensive. It was also stated that voluntarism had failed hitherto in meeting the requirements of Northam, but there prevailed a feeling in favour of giving it a trial under the new arrangement. It was resolved to take a poll as to whether a school board on the voluntary system should be adopted. At Plympton St. Mary on Friday evening it was resolved to maintain the voluntary system for the parish, and repair the existing schools. At Teignmouth the voluntary system has been decided upon as the best for

adoption. In all probability there will be no school rate made in Torquay, as it is believed that the existing school accommodation, together with what is in progress, will be more than sufficient. Schools on an extensive scale are being erected at Upton and Torwood. At Bishop's Lydeard 620% has been collected by means of a house-to-house visitation. A grant from Government and assistance from different societies interested in education are to be applied for. At West Monckton it has been resolved to support the present schools by voluntary contribution. At Torrington it has been decided to form a committee of clergy and laity for the carrying out of the voluntary system.

The Town Council of Longton have unanimously decided to apply for a school board for that town. The number of children requiring elementary education is estimated at 4,000, but less than half that number are now attending school. It is believed that accommodation exists for the whole, and that the chief function of the board will be to put in force the compulsory clauses of the Act.

The Portsmouth and Rochester town councils on Monday resolved to apply to the Education Department for power to elect a school board.

MISCELLANEOUS.

To the Education Orisid Fund, now being raised by the Roman Catholics in England, the Duke of Norfolk and the Marquis of Bute have subscribed 10,000l., and Lord Howard of Glossop, 5,000l.

A short time ago the Tower Hamlets Conservative Association expressed a wish to nominate Miss Burdett Coutts to a seat on the Metropolitan School Board. Miss Coutts, in reply, said she was convinced that the presence of a lady could only act as a barrier to the discussions of such a body, and that at least for the present the School Board would have to deal more with administrative questions than with those on which a woman's influence and experience could be of most avail. She concluded by expressing her conviction that it would be to the advantage of all if ladies declined to enter into the toilsome and difficult arena of electioneering.

The following is a brief summary of the duties of school boards:—The boards will be elected to supply deficiency in elementary education by providing "public elementary schools." In these—(1) Religious teaching, if any, is to be at specified times. (2) Children may be withdrawn from such teaching by their parents. (3) No religious catechism or religious formula which is distinctive of any particular denomination is to be taught. The boards may build or purchase the schoolhouses, may receive schools from managers, may entrust schools to managers, may appoint officers and teachers, and may remove, combine, enlarge, or suppress such schools. The schools may also receive Parliamentary grants on certain conditions. The scholar's fee may be not more than ninepence per week, or it may be paid by the board, or the school may be "free," or "industrial," or "certified industrial" (in the last case contributed to, but not managed by the board). The boards may make bye-laws to compel the attendance of children from five to thirteen years of age by a fine of five shillings, unless there is a proper excuse, or the child is ten years old and is educated. Lastly, the boards may appoint agents to enforce this bye-law, and to bring children under the "Industrial Schools Act," as is done by the Boys' Bandle-employed during the last four years.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

According to a despatch from Vienna, all the Powers concerned have agreed to a Congress on the question raised by Russia with the exception of France, whose adhesion was considered certain. We learn, however, from another source that M. Gambetta has declined to give an answer to the proposition of Lord Lyons, and has remitted the subject to his colleagues in Paris.

PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF'S REPLY TO LORD GRANVILLE.

The following is the full text of Prince Gortschakoff's reply to Lord Granville, being a despatch addressed to Baron Brunnow, dated Tsarskoe Selo, 8th (20th) November, 1870:—

"Monsieur le Baron,—The Ambassador of England has read and left with me a copy of Lord Granville's despatch in reply to our communication of October 19. I hastened to submit it to His Majesty the Emperor. Our august Master was pleased to point out that it contained, in the first place, an expression of the earnest desire of the Cabinet of London to preserve cordial relations between England and Russia; and secondly, an assurance that the Cabinet would not have refused to enter into an examination of the results of the Treaty of 1856, so far as they had been modified by circumstances. As for the question of strict right stated by Lord Granville, we have no wish to enter into any discussion, recall any precedent, cite any example. Such a controversy would in no way promote the good understanding which we desire. Our august Master had to discharge an imperative duty to his own country, without wishing to injure in any way the Governments which were signatories of the Treaty of 1856. On the contrary, His Imperial Majesty appeals to their sense of justice, and to their regard for their own dignity. We regret to see that Lord Granville addresses himself principally to the form of our communications. The form was not our choice. We could have asked nothing better, surely, than to attain our end by an agreement with the signatories of the Treaty of 1856. But the Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic

Majesty well knows that the attempts made at different times to assemble the Powers in a general Conference with a view to remove the causes of difficulty which disturbed the general peace have invariably failed. The prolongation of the present crisis, and the absence of a regular Government in France, postpone still further the possibility of such an agreement. Meanwhile, the position in which the treaty left Russia has become more and more intolerable. Lord Granville will agree that the Europe of to-day is very far from being the Europe which signed the Treaty of 1856. It was impossible that Russia should agree to remain the only Power bound indefinitely by an arrangement which, onerous as it was at the time when it was concluded, became daily weaker in its guarantees. Our august Master has too deep a sense of what he owes to his country to force it to submit any longer to an obligation against which the national sentiment protests. We cannot admit that the abrogation of a purely theoretical principle, to which no immediate effect is given, and which simply restores to Russia a right of which no great Power could consent to be deprived, should be considered as a menace to peace; or that in annulling one point of the Treaty of 1856, there is any implication that all are annulled. The Imperial Cabinet never had any such intention. On the contrary, our communication of October 19 declares, in the most explicit terms, that His Majesty the Emperor fully maintains his adherence to the general principles of the Treaty of 1856, and that he is ready to come to an agreement with the signatory Powers of that Treaty, either to confirm its general stipulations, or to renew them, or to substitute for them any other equitable arrangements which may be thought suitable to secure the repose of the East and the equilibrium of Europe. There seems, then, to be no reason why the Cabinet of London should not, if it please, enter into an explanation with the signatories of the Treaty of 1856. For our part, we are ready to join in any deliberation having for its object the settlement of guarantees for the consolidation of peace in the East. We are persuaded that fresh guarantees would be found in the removal of a permanent cause of irritation between the two Powers the most directly interested. Their mutual relations would be more firmly established on the basis of a good and solid understanding. You are desired, M. le Baron, to read this despatch to Lord Granville, and to leave a copy of it with him. The Principal Secretary of State of Her Britannic Majesty has expressed to us the regret that he would feel if this discussion should disturb the harmony which the Government of Her Majesty the Queen has striven to maintain between the two countries. Be good enough to express to His Excellency how entirely his regret would be shared by the Imperial Cabinet. We believe that a good understanding between the two Governments is exceedingly advantageous to the two countries as well as to the peace of the world. It is with lively satisfaction that we have seen our relations during late years grow more and more close and cordial. The grave circumstances in which we find ourselves at this moment seem to us to make this more desirable than ever.

(Signed) "GORTSCHAKOFF."

EARL GRANVILLE'S SECOND REPLY.

Subjoined is the text of Lord Granville's reply in rejoinder to the despatch of Prince Gortschakoff:—

"Earl Granville to Sir A. Buchanan.

"Foreign Office, Nov. 28th, 1870.

"SIR,—The Russian Ambassador has read and given to me a copy of a despatch of Prince Gortschakoff of the date of 8-20th November.

"It is not necessary for Her Majesty's Government to recur to the important question of international law raised by the circular of Prince Gortschakoff, as they have nothing to add to the declaration on that subject which they have already made.

"His Excellency has been good enough to appeal to my knowledge of facts which His Excellency states prevented that consultation and agreement with other parties to the treaty which Russia would have preferred.

"I am aware that suggestions for Congresses to settle other European questions have been made and not adopted.

"It has also been stated to me that intimations have been given to some of my predecessors that, in the case of certain contingencies, which, however, have never occurred, such as the possession of the Principalities by Austria, Russia would feel bound to call in question some of the provisions of the Treaty of 1856. But I am ignorant of any occasion on which Russia, the party most interested, has proposed in any way to this country that a relaxation of the treaty should be taken into consideration.

"I cannot therefore admit that the Imperial Government can justify this proceeding by the failure of efforts which have never been made.

"The courteous language in which Prince Gortschakoff's despatch is written, his assurance of the manner in which he would have preferred to open this question, and his declaration of the strong desire for a confirmation of good relations between the two nations, particularly important at this time, encourage Her Majesty's Government in the belief that the obstacle to such relations will be removed.

"They observe that His Excellency describes the declaration which has been made by Russia as an abrogation of a theoretical principle without immediate application. If these words are to be construed into an announcement that Russia has formed and stated her own opinion of her rights, but has

no intention of acting in conformity with it without due concert with the other Powers, they go far to close the controversy in which the two Governments have been engaged.

"Her Majesty's Government have no objection to accept the invitation which has been made by Prussia to a Conference, upon the understanding that it is assembled without any foregone conclusion as to its results. In such case Her Majesty's Government will be glad to consider with perfect fairness, and the respect due to a great and friendly Power, any proposals which Russia may have to make.

"You will read and give a copy of this despatch to Prince Gortschakoff.—I am, &c.,
(Signed) "GRANVILLE."

In Saturday's sitting of the Budget Committee of the Austrian Delegation, Count Beust defended his policy, and spoke with marked emphasis in a peaceful sense. He also spoke favourably of the proposed Conference, as being likely to secure the independence of Turkey, and deprecated all meddling with questions concerning the reconstruction of the German Confederation, as being entirely removed from his thoughts. The general aspect of affairs, however, would make it incumbent upon the country, if it wished to preserve its existence and its position, to be watchful and extremely cautious, because the chances of peace grow always in proportion with the resolute readiness to go to war whenever war becomes really necessary.

The *Cologne Gazette* remarks that at the Conference which led to the Treaty of 1856 it was proposed by England that the Euxine should be declared open to all the Powers, whereas Russia wished to reserve it to itself and Turkey. The French Ambassador proposed its neutralisation, and this view prevailed, though England at first declared it impracticable, and Mr. Bright stigmatised it as monstrous. M. Drouyn de Lhuys had previously advocated the principle at Vienna, and, after his resignation, Count Walewski succeeded in carrying it. In 1867 Austria proposed a Congress to consider the repeal of the clause. The *Gazette* suggests that the original English idea may probably be now revived.

Dr. Russell mentions that the personal relations of Mr. Odo Russell with Count Bismark are of a very friendly character; no small matter with such a man as the great Chancellor, who has strong sympathies. The Foreign Office have in their representative another great advantage. Mr. Odo Russell speaks the language in which Count Bismark thinks, and is master of its intricate and subtle expressiveness, so there is no harness to free conversation and play of argument and persuasion. When Mr. Russell dined at the Royal table at the Prefecture, it was remarked that the King was very gracious, and took occasion several times to enter into conversation with him.

The *Times* correspondent at Versailles says:—"One point I think is made clear—Prussia had no intimation of the course Prince Gortschakoff was about to pursue. The issue of the circular came on her by surprise—not an agreeable surprise. The form of the Note and the time at which it was presented have added to the feeling excited by the want of knowledge of the proposed step. But Prussia is not prepared to condemn the action of Russia in seeking a revision of the hurtful clauses of the treaty. The North German Confederation has quite enough on hand at present to deal with, and cannot interfere actively in the questions raised by the Russian Cabinet."

The Porte has agreed to the proposal for a Conference presented by the Prussian Minister on the condition that the only questions to be discussed shall be those raised by the note of Prince Gortschakoff.

In his despatch to Turkey, Prince Gortschakoff writes to the Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* at Constantinople:—"Do not lose any opportunity of making the Grand Vizier understand that this determination, imposed upon His Imperial Majesty by considerations of the dignity and security of his empire, is absolutely devoid of any hostile or malevolent intention towards the Porte. The anomalous position created between Russia and Turkey by the Treaty of 1856 is not only a stumbling-block in the way of their relations; it forms a permanent incitement to those who base their calculations or their hopes upon a rupture between the two countries."

The Government of St. Petersburg have forbidden the national subscription for the Black Sea Fleet, on the ground that such subscription would not be for a purpose allowed by law, and that in time of peace the naval and military forces of the Empire require no outlay which the Imperial Exchequer does not supply.

The Moscow nobility have presented an address to the Emperor thanking him for the circular recently issued by the Government, and for the abolition of class distinctions by the new decree on military service. The Moscow nobility are ready, they say, to serve in the ranks, for the defence of their homes and the integrity of Russia. The Moscow papers inveigh against the German press for censuring the denunciation of the Treaty of 1856.

The Austrian Government having received positive assurances from the Russian Government that all the stipulations of the Paris Treaty relating to the freedom of the Danube navigation will be maintained, the discussion in the London Conference will be confined to the Black Sea question.

Foreign and Colonial.

AMERICA.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Congress met at noon on Monday. The following is an outline of the message of President Grant forwarded by cable by the *Times* correspondent:—

"The United States have kept aloof from the European war, declining intervention, but have used their good offices for the protection of the citizens of the belligerent nations. Should the time come when the action of the United States can hasten the return of peace by a single hour, that action will be heartily taken.

"The insurrection in Cuba has not changed its aspect since the close of the last session in Congress. Arbitrary arrests in Cuba by the Executive have interfered with the rights of American citizens there, and negotiations are pending at Madrid for redress, but are not yet concluded. In these the President proposes a joint Spanish-American Commission in the United States, with power to adjudicate claims arising from these arrests. The President hopes this plan will be received favourably by Spain. Should the negotiations be concluded, he will communicate the fact to Congress, inviting its action on the subject.

"The President regrets that the San Domingo Annexation Treaty failed of ratification by the Senate, and says that as soon as it is known that the United States have abandoned the project of annexing that island a free port there will be negotiated for by European nations. He still strongly urges its acquisition by the United States as desirable, devoting a large portion of his Message to the subject.

"No conclusion, he regrets, has been reached for the adjustment of claims growing out of the course of the British Government during the rebellion. The Cabinet at London, so far as its views have been expressed, does not seem willing to concede that the British Ministry was guilty of any negligence, or had done, or permitted any act during the war, of which the United States have just cause of complaint. Their firm and unalterable convictions are directly the reverse; he, therefore, recommends Congress to authorise the appointment of a Commission to take proof of the amounts and ownership of the claims, and give notice of them to the representative of Her Majesty at Washington; and that authority be given for the settlement of these claims by the United States, so that the Government shall have the ownership of the private claims, as well as the responsible control of all demands against Great Britain. It cannot be necessary to add that whenever Her Majesty's Government shall entertain a desire for a full and friendly adjustment of these claims, the United States will enter upon their consideration with an earnest desire for a conclusion consistent with the sense of honour and dignity of both nations.

"The course pursued by the Canadians towards the fishermen of the United States during the past season had not been marked by a friendly feeling. The President recounts the history of the negotiations and treaties on this subject, and says an irresponsible agent has exercised his authority in an unfriendly way. Vessels have been seized without notice, in violation of the custom previously prevailing, and been taken into colonial ports, their voyages broken up, and the vessels condemned. There is reason to believe this unfriendly and vexatious treatment was designed to bear harshly upon the United States fishermen, with a view to a political effect upon this Government. The Canadian statutes assume still broader and more untenable jurisdiction over United States vessels; they authorise officers or other persons to bring vessels hovering within three marine miles of the Canadian shore into port, search the cargo, and examine the master on oath, and inflict heavy penalties if true answers are not given. The President recapitulates another Canadian statute on the subject, decreeing the forfeiture of vessels. It is not known, he says, that any condemnations have been made under this statute. Should the Canadian authorities attempt enforcing it, it will become the President's duty to take such steps as may be necessary to protect the rights of American citizens. The Canadian laws deny American fishing-vessels access to their ports, except for supplies, and then compel departure in twenty-four hours. No seizure is known to have been made under this law, but so far as a claim for its enforcement is grounded on an alleged construction of the Convention of 1818, it cannot be acquiesced in by the United States, and it is hoped it will not be insisted on by Her Majesty's Government. During the conferences preceding the negotiation of this Convention the British Commissioners proposed to expressly exclude the fishermen of the United States from the privilege of carrying on trade with any Canadian subjects residing within limits assigned for their use, and also that it should not be lawful for vessels of the United States engaged in such fishery to have on board any articles, excepting articles necessary for their fishing voyages, and that vessels contravening these regulations would be seized and confiscated. This proposition, identical with the constructions now put upon the language of the Convention, was emphatically rejected by the American Commissioners, and thereupon was abandoned by the British Plenipotentiaries; and Article 1, as it now stands in the Convention, was substituted. If, however, it be said this claim is founded on colonial statutes, and not on the Convention, this Government cannot but regard it as unfriendly, and in contravention of the spirit, if not of the letter, of the treaty, for the faithful execution of which the Imperial British Government is alone responsible. In anticipation

that an attempt may be made by the Canadian authorities in the coming season to repeat their unneighbourly acts towards our fishermen, President Grant recommends Congress to confer on the Executive power to suspend by proclamation the laws now in force authorising the transit of goods in bond across the territory of the United States to Canada; and further, should such an extreme measure become necessary, to suspend the operation of any laws whereby Canadian vessels are permitted to enter the waters of the United States. A like unfriendly disposition has been manifested by the Canadian maintenance of the claim of a right to exclude citizens of the United States from the St. Lawrence river. This stream is a natural outlet of the commerce of the United States, and the President argues at length against the Canadian right to close it to such commerce. He cites the Rhine, the Danube, and other rivers whose navigation has been declared free. He hopes the British Government will see the justice of abandoning the narrow and inconsistent claim to which her Canadian provinces have urged her adherence.

"The President refers to the depressed commerce, and thinks that hereafter we shall have to look to countries south of the United States for its revival. He recommends Government to encourage the construction of iron vessels, and also encourage other branches of shipbuilding.

"The remainder of the Message refers exclusively to domestic affairs."

We learn by a cable despatch that Mr. Reverdy Johnson has written a letter advising those who are seeking indemnity under the Alabama claims to withdraw their demands from the Government of the United States, and appeal directly to the British Government.

The American correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 18th ult., says:—"The American mission to London still gives the President a great deal of trouble. General Schenck, after considering the appointment tendered him for about two weeks, is understood to have finally declined it, justly concluding that to go to London now would be to go into a sort of political exile, where a man can earn no laurels in the present condition of diplomatic relations, but is sure of losing his chance of future political preferment at home. The President consequently is again without a Minister; and, not desiring to have Mr. Motley remain in London any longer, the Secretary of State has recalled him, and Mr. Benjamin Moran, the efficient Secretary of Legation, is to be temporarily made chargé d'affaires. Mr. Motley's friends in this country, led by Senator Sumner, are quite indignant at this, and they threaten that Motley will remain in defiance of the President, and that the 'Tenure of Office Law' can be invoked for his protection in this disobedience to the President's orders. That law, passed to trammel President Johnson, is still on the statute book, and, curiously enough, was originally proposed on account of the differences between Johnson and Motley when the latter was American Minister at Vienna. That Mr. Motley, however, will factiously remain in London, in spite of a recall, seems very improbable, notwithstanding the great anxiety on the part of many persons to get him into an open quarrel with the President. The American Government is anxious to have several questions brought at once to the attention of the English Government, among them the fishery disputes, and these matters it was not thought judicious to entrust to Mr. Motley, because he would not remain long enough to complete them."

GERMANY.

In the North German Parliament on Saturday there was a long discussion on the late imprisonment of Jacoby by General von Falkenstein. Herr Dunker opened the subject in an exhaustive speech. He proved that the constitutional laws of the country were not suspended during a state of siege, and demanded why citizens should be imprisoned without a trial. The President, Herr Delbrück, replied in substance that Count Bismark could not be held responsible for the acts of military commanders, who were answerable to the King alone. Herr Winthorst defended General von Falkenstein because his desire to free the prisoners was not permitted to be carried out by the higher authority. The majority of the speakers palliated or gently condemned the action of the military chiefs, but expressed no sympathy for Jacoby.

In Monday's sitting of the North German Parliament, a general debate on the different constitutional treaties took place. The Minister von Delbrück laid stress upon the point that, in framing a new Constitution, the strengthening of federal elements was essentially necessary. He justified several deviations from the North German Constitution, such as the stipulations contained in the new draft with respect to declarations of war, and a diplomatic committee, whereby the hitherto existing independence of the Presidency of the Bund would be diminished. He likewise pointed out that the essentially defensive character of the new Confederation should be fully made clear to the world.

The Minister further announced that Prince Luitpold of Bavaria, on Saturday, had presented to the King of Prussia at Versailles a letter from the King of Bavaria, in which the latter invites the King of Prussia to assume the title and dignity of Emperor. The Princes already at Versailles had assented to this proposition. The assent of the other German princes was expected.

The opposition in Parliament to the Bavarian Convention is increasing, and it probably will not be ratified without amendment. It is said that Count

Bismark declares he will retire from office unless the South German Convention is adopted unaltered.

The exceptional position accorded to Bavaria under the new Federal Treaties has made a bad impression in Wurtemberg, whose Government and people, as they have sacrificed their independence to unity, object to unity being impaired by another minor State.

ITALY.

The Spanish deputation conveying the offer of the Crown to the Duke d'Aosta (which in all comprised 109 persons) arrived at Florence on Saturday at one o'clock. They were received at the railway-station by representatives of the Court, the civil and military authorities, and the Spanish Embassy. The deputation was officially received on Sunday at the Pitti Palace at eleven o'clock. President Zorilla asked permission of the King to tender the Throne to Prince Amadeus. On His Majesty signifying his assent, the deed of acceptance was drawn up and signed. In accepting the Crown the Duke d'Aosta said:—"Faithful to the traditions of my ancestors, and though I do not ignore the difficulties of my new position and the responsibilities to be assumed before history, I place my confidence in God and in the Spanish people, which has given proof that it knows how to unite respect for the law with liberty. To make myself worthy of my election, I have but to follow loyally the example of the constitutional traditions in which I have been brought up. A soldier in the army, I shall at the same time be the first citizen to the representatives of the nation. I know not whether I shall have the good fortune to shed my blood for my new country, and of adding a new page to those which already celebrate the glory of Spain; but, in any case, I am sure that the Spaniards will be able to say of the King whom they have elected—'His honesty could rise above the struggles of parties, and he had no other object but the peace and prosperity of the nation.'"

CHINA.

The following has been received by the Foreign Office:—"A telegram has been received from Mr. Wade, dated Pekin, November 16, stating that M. Rochechouart has come back from Tientsin, where he considers public confidence completely restored. He expresses himself satisfied with the new Governor-General. There is no alarm elsewhere. British, American, French, and perhaps Russian, gunboats will remain at Tientsin during the winter."

A telegram from Shanghai of November 8, says:—"A Tartar insurrection has broken out in Mongolia. 20,000 rebels are marching on Ourga and Fliasutai (?). Thirty guns and 1,000 drilled soldiers, with Russian rifles, started from Kalgau on the 21st of November."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The report of the death of Queen Emma, of the Sandwich Islands, is authoritatively contradicted. The Queen who died was the widow of a previous sovereign.

RAILWAY COLLISION IN CANADA.—A terrible collision between two trains occurred on the 3rd on the Grand Trunk Railway line near Brighton. Three persons were killed, one was fatally injured, and eighteen cars and two engines were completely destroyed.

WEST INDIAN FEDERALISATION.—There is a rumour about that the Colonial Office has an idea of federalising the West Indian Islands under a single Governor-General, a plan which would, we doubt not, find hearty support in Parliament. No Act of Union could make of the islands a strong State, but a federal system would greatly simplify and strengthen their administration.—*Spectator*.

A "REVEREND" BRIDE.—Mary A. Steinbaugh, who graduated from Oberlin College in 1865, and who has lately become somewhat noted as a Methodist preacher, has been married at Palermo to the Rev. Henry J. Bradford, a Methodist minister. Just before the marriage ceremony Miss Steinbaugh preached before the Conference, which was in session at Palermo, after which she stepped from the pulpit to the altar, when the marriage ceremony was performed. What a fix the reverend bride would be in if the Conference should appoint her to a church distant from her husband!—*New York Herald*.

COUNT BISMARCK AND PIUS IX.—I am informed that Count Bismark has applied through Baron Arnim to the Pope for his co-operation in the pacification of Alsace and Lorraine, and that His Holiness has agreed to address an Encyclical or Pontifical brief to the bishops of those provinces, exhorting the inhabitants to submission. This document will be a reproduction of the brief addressed by Gregory XVI. to the bishops of Poland in 1832. It is said that Count Bismark has bought the favour with a promise to secure at least a partial restoration of the temporal power as soon as the Prussians occupy Paris.—*Letter from Rome*.

THE POPE AND HIS RESOURCES.—The Pope's unwillingness to part with his money has led to a great falling off in the ecclesiastical attendance at the Vatican. Some of the prelates, indeed, have no resource but their official salary, and the stoppage of this stipend reduces them to indigence. Yet the Holy Father gives them no assistance, though he is known to have in the Vatican 3,000,000 francs in gold, and the Peter penny is constantly flowing in. He now takes his promenade in the Gallery of Raphael instead of the Gardens, and is very poorly attended. He is, however, invariably accompanied by Cardinal Bonaparte, whom the ex-Emperor Napoleon has commanded never to leave him, and who has accordingly abandoned his magnificent

palace in the Piazza Venezia to occupy an apartment at the Vatican. The Holy Father looks ill, and is kept in alarm by the demonstrations. Should any attack be made on the Vatican, the Holy Father will proceed to Porto d'Anzio, and thence go on to Malta, probably in an English man-of-war. The Quirinal is to be occupied by Prince Humbert and his consort, who will come to Rome for a few weeks about the middle of December, when General La Marmora, no longer required to represent the king, will go to Florence, but will return here on the termination of the Prince's visit, at the beginning of the new year.—*Letter from Rome*.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty, on Wednesday, paid a visit to the ex-Empress of the French at Chiselhurst, who paid a return visit at Windsor Castle on Monday. The ex-Empress was accompanied by the Prince Imperial, and they were most cordially welcomed by Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal family. The Imperial visit lasted upwards of an hour, and at its close the Empress took leave of the Queen and Royal family, leaving the Castle at 3.40, accompanied by Prince Arthur, and attended to the railway-station by Lord Charles Fitzroy and the Hon. Miss Phipps.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice went on Saturday to inspect the partly-completed Royal Albert Hall. After looking at the outside of the building the distinguished party went inside and occupied the Royal box and balcony in order to discover the acoustic properties of the hall. One of the contractor's boys accordingly was called upon to sing before the Queen and Princess, and afterwards there were an instrumental exercise, and a trial to test the female voice. Her Majesty was informed that the hall would be finished before the end of next month. Before leaving she expressed her pleasure at the progress of the works.

The Queen and Royal family are expected to leave Windsor Castle about the 16th inst. for Osborne for the Christmas holidays.

The Dean of Canterbury preached before the Queen in the private chapel at Windsor on Sunday.

On Thursday night the Prince and Princess of Wales gave a county ball in connection with the opening of the new house at Sandringham. The reception hall was fitted up as a dancing saloon, and about three hundred members of the leading families in the county accepted the invitation of their Royal Highnesses.

The statement that the Princess Louise's marriage is to take place on the 10th of February is incorrect. No time for the ceremony has been definitely settled. Preparations are, however, being made in St. George's Chapel. The Marquis of Lorn remains a guest at Windsor Castle. The health of the Princess Louise is understood to be greatly improving.

The *Dundee Advertiser* states that the Princess Louise has signified her willingness to accept the wedding present of the tenantry and household servants at Balmoral and Abergeldie. The present will be a necklace.

Mr. Gladstone and several other members of the Cabinet have again left London for their country seats. Parliament has been further prorogued to the 18th of January.

It is rumoured that, health permitting, the Queen will open Parliament in state next session.

According to the *Athenæum* the recent article in the *Edinburgh Review*, attributed to Mr. Gladstone, was written by the right hon. gentleman's eldest son.

Mr. H. Newell Martin, B.Sc. London, and Scholar of Christ's College, Cambridge, son of Rev. Henry Martin, Welshpool, late of Royston, Herts, has just taken first-class honours and has been adjudged a Scholarship in the University of London.

At the meeting of the County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast, Mr. Johnston, M.P., has been deposed from the office of Grand Master, on refusing to subject himself to the dictation, in his capacity as a Parliamentary representative, of the Conservative party leaders of Belfast.

Mr. George Francis Train having made good his escape from Marseilles, arrived in London on Saturday. His first act on arrival was to call at the Reform Club and inquire for Mr. Gladstone, Earl Granville, Mr. Forster, and Mr. George Odger. We have not yet heard if he has made a call at Windsor Castle.

It is understood that our Government have ordered a considerable number of torpedoes.

The mitrailleuse is no longer an experimental weapon in the British army, the War Department having ordered sixty batteries of the small Gatling gun to be supplied as a weapon of the service.

Mr. Auberon Herbert is recovering from his recent illness.

The Right Hon. W. E. Forster has been passing a few days at Lady Buxton's, at Cromer, Norfolk. Mr. Forster left Cromer for London yesterday.

Mr. Motley has received his letter of recall, and will take leave of the American Legation yesterday. His Excellency had a farewell audience of the Queen at Windsor in the afternoon. Mr. Moran, the present Secretary of the United States Legation in England, will act as Chargé d'Affaires pending the appointment of Mr. Motley's successor. It is said that Mr. Motley intends to reside at the Hague for some time.

Postscript.

Wednesday, December 7th, 1870.

THE WAR.

ROUT OF THE LOIRE ARMY.

The following telegraphic despatch has been received from the head-quarters of Prince Frederick Charles:—"The French Army of the Loire is utterly defeated, and Orleans has been occupied. Up to last night more than 10,000 unwounded prisoners, seventy-seven guns, several mitrailleuses, and four gunboats on the Loire have fallen into our hands. The Prince adds that the Army of the Loire is broken up in all directions."

The Dowager Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg has received the following telegraphic despatch from her brother, King William of Prussia:—

VERSAILLES, Dec. 3, Evening.

Your son has gained three victories in three days—on the 2nd, near Bazoches, capturing twelve guns; on the 3rd, near Cheville, capturing three guns; and on the 4th, north and west of Orleans, where General Von Treckow carried three villages at the point of the bayonet, taking twenty-two guns and 5,000 prisoners.

On the 3rd and 4th the armies of the Grand Duke and of Prince Frederick Charles likewise fought around and in the Forest of Orleans.

General Manstein last night stormed the suburb of St. Jean, and occupied the town during the night. Our losses were not excessive.

Here we have had three sanguinary fights in front of Vincennes, alternately taking and losing several villages, until the enemy yesterday entirely withdrew without being attacked. Our losses are heavy, especially those of the 2nd Army Corps and of the Wurtembergers, who fought heroically. The losses of the Saxons were less severe.

The intention of the enemy—namely, to break through our lines in the direction of Orleans—was entirely frustrated.

LATEST BALLOON NEWS FROM PARIS.

A despatch from Paris of the 4th inst. says the whole of Saturday was occupied in burying the dead and attending to the wounded. The Prussian losses in the engagements of Wednesday and Friday were estimated in Paris at 15,000 to 20,000 men. On Saturday the French, in their passage across the Marne, were not interfered with by the enemy.

The victories of Wednesday and Friday produced great enthusiasm in Paris. General Renault, whose foot had been amputated, was progressing favourably. General La Charrière was killed, and Generals Patrel and Boissonnet wounded. General Ducrot had again distinguished himself. In the engagement on Friday the German forces were composed of fresh troops, exceeding 100,000 men, the greater portion belonging to the Saxon and Wurtemberg contingents.

General Schmitz issued the following official report of the engagement of Dec. 2:—

"The army which is outside Paris is without the reach of any attack, and is gathering new strength from the short repose to which it was entitled after such severe fighting."

A despatch from Versailles of Monday says:—"All quiet to-day before Paris, save for a few stray shots from the forts."

King William has accepted the title of Emperor of Germany.

M. Lefavre, French Consul at Vienna, publicly thanks the four Communists in the German Federal Parliament for defending the cause of the French Republic against an assembly intoxicated with the lust of conquest. Lefavre says he has been accredited to the German Democracy.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

A Berlin telegram says:—"The French Government hesitates to attend a Black Sea Conference. Prussia does not object to attend the Conference, even if France absents herself. The Petersburg semi-official *Golos* says that in denouncing certain clauses of the Treaty of 1856, Russia had no wish to announce the immediate construction of a fleet, but, on the contrary, counted upon her declaration being legalised by the Powers. In point of fact, her declaration was only a short cut to a Conference."

UNIVERSITY TESTS.—MEETING AT CAMBRIDGE.

CAMBRIDGE, TUESDAY.

An important meeting was held last night in the Guildhall, Cambridge, under the auspices of the Cambridge Association for the Repeal of University Tests, under the presidency of Mr. W. S. Aldis, a Nonconformist Senior Wrangler, who has been deprived of taking that position in his college (Trinity) to which he is otherwise entitled, owing to his feeling that he cannot conscientiously subscribe to the Tests required by law before he can receive a fellowship.

The Alderman's Parlour was filled, the auditory being composed of Nonconformist undergraduates and the leading members of the Nonconformist bodies in Cambridge.

The CHAIRMAN having explained the position in which the question now stands with reference to past attempts at legislation, said that it was the intention of the Government to bring in a bill early next session exactly like that of last year; it would be brought forward very early, so that the Lords

would have no excuse for rejecting on the score of want of time to fully consider it. Should the House of Lords again reject it, there was every reason to believe that the Government would bring one in on a wider basis. They would, of course, take what they could get, but they would not consent to a compromise. It was for them to demand the abolition of compulsory clerical fellowships. They had made a mistake last year, and one of the results was that some of their friends, Mr. Miall amongst the number, had to walk out of the House rather than vote. He thought they should support the inclusion of the clerical fellowship abolition in the bill. He could not say for certain what would be the course taken by Government if they did, but he did not believe in the possibility of any Liberal Government meeting Parliament without promising to deal with this question. This association of Nonconformist members of the University had been formed because it was believed that no other class of persons could feel so strongly the necessity of the repeal of the tests as those who were so deeply affected. It was the intention of the society to promote meetings throughout the country, and to take other steps to sweep away, if possible, the last rag and vestige of these obnoxious tests.

The Rev. W. ROBINSON, President of the Baptist Association, proposed, "That this meeting regards with satisfaction the intention of the Government to carry a bill for the removal of religious disabilities from the national Universities." He said that in the statement made by the chairman as to the intentions of the Government, the meeting were in possession of information that was possessed by no other meeting in England. He directed some very pointed remarks to the clerical fellowship question. There were, he said, many instances of persons who had been compelled to take orders or forfeit the fellowships, swallowing the test and taking orders not willingly but by constraint, and he deduced some practical conclusions from this state of things. He instanced the case of a gentleman who had, some thirty-five years ago, refused to allow his son to come to Cambridge to be a marked man because of his Nonconformist principles, and had sent him to Dublin University. He was now one of the highest and most learned dignitaries of that University. He explained the nature of the various tests required, and argued eloquently in favour of their abolition, so that Nonconformists might become fellows, professors, heads of colleges, &c.

Mr. NEVILLE GOODMAN, M.A. (St. Peter's), seconded the resolution in a very exhaustive speech.

Mr. THOMAS (Trinity) supposed that if there was any argument that was supposed to be worthy of consideration for the retention of tests, it was that their abolition would bring to an end the maintenance of sound religious instruction in the university. He was just completing his undergraduate career, and must be therefore perfectly conversant with the distinctive religious education imparted by the university. If asked what it was, he should be compelled to say that he did not know. He had great hopes that when this bill was passed they might soon have a Liberal member for the university. The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. W. H. JOHNSON, M.A. (Corpus), proposed the second resolution as follows:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the University Tests Bill of the forthcoming session, in addition to the provisions contained in the Bill of last year, should provide for the abolition of the necessity of taking orders as a condition of acquiring or holding any office or emolument in the national universities or colleges thereof, and requests their representatives in Parliament to use their influence with the Government to effect this object." He spoke of the great temptation that there was for persons to sacrifice their principles when by so doing they could obtain a position of competency and honour.

Mr. W. BOND (Independent) seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. W. FOWLER, M.P. (whose rising was a signal for hearty cheering), proposed the third resolution, "That this meeting views with satisfaction the formation of this association, pledges itself to its support, and trusts it will not relax its efforts until the objects for which it was formed are fully accomplished." He proceeded to combat at some length the arguments urged against the abolition of tests, and contended that the religious force of the university would be improved and raised by the admission of the sons of Nonconformists in greater numbers. The tests were an injustice, and a great injustice. He advocated that they should move in committee the insertion of a clause abolishing the necessity of taking orders for fellowships. His impression was that if the Government did not take that up they would be making a great mistake. They might depend upon it that the time would soon come when men of all kinds of religious opinion would be able to come up to the University and obtain their degree without a word being asked as to their religious opinions.

Mr. W. COLLIN seconded the resolution, which was carried *nem con*.

The usual vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

Sir Roderick Murchison passed a quiet day yesterday, and was a little better last night.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—Shields, Tuesday night.—A frightful collision occurred upon the Sunderland and Newcastle branch of the North-Eastern Railway to-day. The half-past ten express from Sunderland to Newcastle was passing Brockley Whins Station, when the porter in charge of the switches, instead of turning a coal train from New-

castle to the Tyne Docks on to the siding which leads to them, opened the points of a crossing which brought both the express and coal train off their lines on it. They met end on with a tremendous crash. The engines were broken to pieces, and several of the carriages of the express. The following persons were killed:—Mr. Frederick Younge, manager of the Caste company performing in the Lyceum Theatre, Sunderland; Mr. Henry Richardson, paper manufacturer, Sunderland; Mr. W. B. Odgen, banker, Sunderland; and Mr. J. C. Turnbull, Sunderland. Another person has since died, and the guard of the train is not expected to live over the night. About a score of others are hurt, one or two of them very seriously. They all belong to Sunderland. A great number of medical men have been brought from the neighbouring towns to attend the wounded. The line was completely blocked up for several hours.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

A considerable amount of animation was noticeable throughout the grain-trade at Mark-lane to-day, and the enhanced rates realised on Monday last were fully maintained. There was a limited supply of English wheat on sale, which came to hand in tolerably good condition. Both Essex and Kent produce was purchased with activity at the advanced quotations of Monday last. The arrivals from abroad were only moderate, which were also disposed of quickly, at similar improvement.

MOAB AND THE DESERT.

The "Preliminary Report" of Messrs. Palmer and Drake on their recent visit to Moab and the Desert of the forty years' wandering is just issued by the Palestine Exploration Fund. It appears from this brief compendium of their journals that the travellers, after finishing the small piece of survey wanted to complete the map of the Sinai Peninsula, worked their way northward through the Desert of the Tih and the Negeb, or South Country. Here they made a survey of a large part of the land, and in the course of their journey discovered no fewer than four ruined cities whose existence had been previously unknown or unsuspected, identified many important sites, and collected a mass of information and tradition from the Arabs with whom Mr. Palmer conversed.

After leaving the Negeb, they proceeded to Jerusalem to refit, and then struck southwards again, this time by the mountains, passing from Hebron right through the unexplored Jebel Rakmeah mountains of the Azázimeh to Wady Musa. Here they found the ruins of Abdeh, the old Ebedah, traced the course of the old Roman road which led to Arabia, and examined the wadies and passes. Going still southwards, they ascended Mount Hor and examined the antiquities and inscriptions of the Sig. Of the latter they found many, and perfect, in Greek and Latin, and several in Nabathian. In the district of Petra they had considerable trouble with the fellahin, whom Mr. Palmer has identified as the *Liydtheuch*, a branch of the *Kheibar* Jews who migrated to this country after the Mahometan conquest from Mecca. They retain many distinctive customs of the Jews, as well as the national features. Ten miles to the north of Petra they found a small rock-cut city, called El Barid, situated in a magnificent gorge, the passage through the mountains at either end being so narrow as to admit of being closed by gates, the sockets of which still remain cut in the rock. The temples, houses, and cisterns are reported as being in even better preservation than those of Petra, the excavations as of more ancient type, and as never having been converted into tombs. They appear to have served as habitations in the Roman times, and many of the walls and ceilings contain beautifully-executed frescoes of flowers, cupids, and other figures, the colours remaining as fresh and vivid as though they had recently been laid on.

They proceeded thence northwards, and made a sojourn of some time in Moab. Here they examined every town and village, searching carefully for inscriptions, not finding nothing of any importance. Their exploration of the country appears to have been complete, and their conclusion is, that *there exists no inscription—no other Moabite stone—above ground*; that an expedition with the means to dig in the ruins would find results of value and interest, but that a "mere visit, even of scientific men to the country, would be attended with nothing but disappointment and annoyance." Add to this, that unless the travellers were, like Messrs. Palmer and Drake, absolutely independent of escorts, by a perfect familiarity with Arabic, such an expedition would be most costly and cumbersome. This being the conclusion of Mr. Palmer, what will be done with the 100l. voted by the British Association, and entrusted to Sir Roderick Murchison and other gentlemen, for the exploration of Moab?

At Jericho they fell in with a tribe of Oriental gipsies. Mr. Palmer found that their language is precisely the same as that spoken by the gipsies of England.

At Jerusalem they devoted themselves to copying inscriptions, among others, those in the Haram, a full account and translation of which are promised in the final report. For this, with the map which ought to accompany it, without which the report would be greatly shorn of its value, we have to wait. The journey, however, has clearly been productive of most important results, even where these, as in Moab, have proved merely negative. It is, next to Captain Warren's excavations, the best piece of work yet done by the committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The Terms for Advertising in THE NONCONFORMIST are as follows:—

One Line A Shilling.
Each additional Line Sixpence.

There are, on an average, eight words in a line.

LEADER PAGE.

An extra charge of 2s. 6d. for every ten lines or under.

Published by ARTHUR MIALI (to whom it is requested that all Post-office Orders may be made payable), 15, Boulevard Street, Fleet-street, E.C.

Advertisers of all classes will find THE NONCONFORMIST a valuable Medium for their announcements.

THE NONCONFORMIST is registered for transmission abroad.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

	£	s.	d.
Yearly	1	8	10
Half-yearly	0	12	0
Quarterly	0	6	0

*. Where any difficulty is experienced in obtaining copies with regularity from the News-vendor, the Subscriber will find his cause of complaint removed by ordering a stamped copy direct from the Publishing-office.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1870.

SUMMARY.

A WEEK of terrible conflicts has ended disastrously for the French cause. About ten days ago General D'Aurelle de Paladines, in endeavouring to carry out his understanding with the defenders of Paris, made strenuous efforts to advance in the direction of Fontainebleau, but met with a serious repulse at the hands of Prince Frederick Charles at Beaune-la-Rolande, in which the great number of prisoners taken by the Germans was a significant omen as to the discipline of their foes. Whether cognisant or not of this disaster to the co-operating army, General Trochu resolved to wait no longer. On Tuesday night there was a furious cannonade from the Paris forts, and early next morning several sorties were made to distract the enemy. But about noon, from 50,000 to 80,000 troops issued from the French capital on the eastern side, crossed the Marne on pontoon bridges, and attacked the Wurtembergers who guarded the investing lines on that side. If General D'Aurelle's army had been well on towards Fontainebleau the consequences would have been very serious for the Germans. The struggle was desperate; the slaughter fearful. When the combat ceased at night the French, though they had had the worst of it, held tenaciously to the positions they had captured at Champigny and Brie, on the east of the Marne. On Thursday there was a pause to bury the dead and carry off the wounded; but on Friday the Wurtembergers and Saxons, after fighting all day, retook the villages beyond range of the forts, but at a fearful sacrifice—one regiment losing nearly all its officers in killed and wounded. On Sunday the French returned to the Paris side of the Marne, and have remained quiet ever since. General Ducrot is said to be dead, but as to the spirit of the invested population, disappointed at the issue of this gallant but unsuccessful effort to break through the cordon around the city, we have as yet no news.

The Army of the Loire made another determined movement in advance on Thursday, and gained some ground. But next day the Duke of Mecklenburg's corps faced about from the Le Mans district, and defeated part of General D'Aurelle's forces with heavy loss, and the whole Army of the Loire was obliged to retire upon the forest close to Orleans. On Saturday the "Red Prince," with his entire force, pressed upon the retreating French, and carried Chévilley, only nine miles from Orleans. On Sunday the suburbs of that city were stormed, and on Monday, contrary to M. Gambetta's directions, Orleans was surrendered without any attack. It is said to be possible that the Commander-in-Chief, unable to achieve impossibilities, may be court-martialled. The shattered Army of the Loire is in retreat—perhaps hopelessly disorganised—and a message has been sent into Paris from the Royal headquarters at Versailles, that Orleans has been taken and the Army of the Loire routed, with the loss of thirty guns and several thousand prisoners. Rouen also, as well as Amiens, has fallen into the hands of General Manteuffel, and the Prussian Uhlans are only a short distance from Havre, now entirely cut off from Tours and the South.

Later German accounts describe the disaster that has overtaken the French around Orleans as a complete overthrow—seventy-seven guns and 10,000 prisoners having fallen into the

hands of the victors, who are still pursuing the Army of the Loire, which is "broken up in all directions." M. Gambetta, however, shows no signs of yielding, and declares that the French forces are "preparing to resume the struggle against the invader." But it is certain that Paris cannot now be relieved from without. General Trochu may offer further resistance, but apparently his capitulation is only a question of days.

The union of the Southern German States with those of the North being practically secured, though not without some grumbling, the King of Bavaria has written to King William announcing that he has "proposed to the German sovereigns to suggest to your Majesty that the possession of the presidential rights to the confederacy be coupled with the imperial title." The King of Prussia does not it is said, object, and before long he is likely to be proclaimed Emperor of Germany. Will the various Diets be consulted on the subject, or is the title to be conferred upon King William by the grace of his brother sovereigns, or by his own supreme will?

Our domestic news is *nil*. It is probable that the Government have been maturing their policy for next Session at the Cabinet Councils which have now been brought to a close. There is no doubt that when Parliament meets the Home Secretary will take the lead with his promised social reforms. It will be seen that at an effective meeting held at Cambridge on Monday, a statement was made that the Government intend to make the University Tests Abolition Bill the first measure of the forthcoming Session, exactly in the form of last year's measure, and if that is thrown out they will bring in a larger scheme. We trust this report may turn out to be correct.

President Grant's Message to Congress contains several passages which seriously concern ourselves. In respect to the Alabama claims, it is suggested that his Government shall have authority to buy them up, and deal with them, so that "whenever Her Majesty's Government shall entertain a desire for a full and friendly adjustment of these claims the United States will enter upon their consideration with an earnest desire for a conclusion consistent with the sense of honour and dignity of both nations." The President makes a very serious grievance of the "unfriendly" way in which the Canadians carry out the Fisheries Convention, and recommends that if these "unneighbourly" acts should be repeated towards fishermen of the United States, the Executive should have the power "to suspend by proclamation the laws now in force authorising the transit of goods in bond across the territory of the United States to Canada; and further, should such an extreme measure become necessary, to suspend the operation of any laws whereby Canadian vessels are permitted to enter the waters of the United States." These statements would excite alarm on this side the Atlantic, but for the known readiness of our Government to reconsider the Fisheries Convention, with a view to a readjustment of the provisions that bear hardly upon the Union. We trust, as we have before said, that upon Earl Granville may devolve the credit of settling, in one diplomatic negotiation, all the differences between the two nations. This might probably be done if some statesman such as Mr. Bright, enjoying confidence on either side, were to be sent out to Washington with ample powers.

One passage in the President's Message may excite some surprise amongst sensational politicians in England, who are so fond of conjuring up visions of an alliance offensive and defensive between the United States and Russia. General Grant has no such ideas of intervention. On the contrary, "he regards the time as not far distant when the political connection of Europe with America will cease." This is the wise lesson he draws from the convulsions of Europe, and it is one which we may well take to heart, instead of going mad after huge armaments like the great continental Powers. At all events, the fear that America will make common cause with Russia in her schemes of ambition is effectually dispelled.

ENGLAND AND THE EASTERN QUESTION.

THE game of diplomacy which was opened on the last day of October by Prince Gortschakoff, like a game of chess, was probably played in the hope of winning it by the audacity of the first few moves. In this respect it has failed, and Russia is now in a weaker position to gain her end than she was at the beginning. She threw forward her pretensions too incautiously. She moved the pieces on the board as if she had no need to watch the

moves of her antagonist. The consequence has been that, much to her surprise, check has been given to her King, and she has felt herself compelled to withdraw to their original position on the board, in the shape of claims and allegations, pieces she had advanced without being able to support. It is quite possible she may eventually get what she wants, but she will not get it in the way she meant to have done. She has lost rather than gained advantage by declaring that she would henceforth regard the stipulations of the Treaty of 1856, so far as they relate to the neutralisation of the Black Sea, as abrogated. Prince Gortschakoff could assign no good reason for making that declaration, except that the obligation had become intolerable to Russia.

The diplomatic situation is now as follows—Russia, by Prince Gortschakoff, has renounced all intention of respecting the neutrality of the Black Sea. England has intimated that she is unable to regard such renunciation as of the least authority to release her from the obligations she has contracted to enforce that neutrality. Prussia has proposed a Conference of the signatory Powers to be held in London, which all the Powers have assented to. But in his latest despatch Earl Granville writes, "His Excellency describes the declaration which has been made by Russia as an abrogation of a theoretical principle without immediate application. If these words are to be construed into an announcement that Russia has formed and stated her own opinion of her rights, but has no intention of acting in conformity with it without due concert with the other Powers, they go far to close the controversy in which the two Governments have been engaged. Her Majesty's Government have no objection to accept the invitation which has been made by Prussia to a Conference, upon the understanding that it is assembled without any foregone conclusion as to its results."

There is not, perhaps, much reason to fear that the immediate point in dispute between Russia and the signatory Powers cannot be arranged by the Conference by an amicable agreement. It is not improbable, indeed, that the Black Sea, instead of being closed to the ships of war of all nations, may be thrown open to them all, as the Baltic is at this present moment. The Porte would not favour such a conclusion, should deliberations tend that way; but the Porte would probably yield her own wishes to those of her present allies. In this case, of course, the convention between England, Austria, and France would cease to have force, or, at any rate, either of the contracting Powers might honourably release itself from the engagements which that convention was intended to express. One of the public laws of Europe having been repealed by the authorities which made it, any agreement made between the Powers most interested to enforce it, if necessary, falls to the ground. That will be a felicitous incident for this country, if our Government be wise enough to improve it. With the Treaty of 1856, as it now stands, abrogated by general consent, our way seems clear enough to detach ourselves, once for all, from what is usually called "the Eastern question."

The reasons which we should hope would commend such a course to the existing generation of British statesmen, are obvious at a glance, except, indeed, to diplomatists of a bygone school. It cannot be for the interest of England that a bone of contention should be intentionally preserved, to be brought out at every convenient opportunity by unfriendly Powers, over which a traditional policy, and no other serious motive whatever, would urge us to growl and then, most likely, to fight. Old stimulants to a bellicose policy, such as this Eastern question, ought not to be handed down from generation to generation, a single sniff of which by either of the Great Powers, and especially by England, is so morally certain to inflame the blood, and to lead to choleric displays of pugnacity. There ought to be no scarlet flags kept on the premises for the purpose of maddening the bull, or for showing him up to the world as having no more fight left in him. We ought to have got out of such a diplomatic rut by this time. We should have done, we think, but for this Treaty of 1856. Lord Palmerston was noosed in this Eastern matter by Napoleon III. We do not say that no good of any sort came out of the Crimean war—because we believe the present accepted policy of non-intervention was one of its indirect results. But who can calculate the mischiefs that it gave rise to? Not the least among them was the progressive increase of European armaments, and the excitement of a state of unrest among the nations, out of which the Franco-German war has certainly proceeded. We shall do well to get rid, as soon as possible, of every remaining nest-egg

of international strife, and, first and foremost, of the "Eastern question."

If we had more serious interests involved than we have in keeping Russia out of Constantinople, it will surely be apparent to anybody who will give the subject a moment's reflection, that the interests of Turkey, and of Austria, are much more deeply concerned in preventing it. And they can prevent it, and will prevent it, if we do not over-meddle, which many of our politicians seem intent upon doing. As soon as it is understood by all European Powers that Great Britain has advisedly extricated herself from all the diplomatic entanglements which bound her to the Eastern question, France, Germany, Austria, and Turkey herself, will probably combine to render impracticable the traditional policy of ambition attributed to Russia. They all have, or, at least, think they have, momentous interests at stake. We, on the contrary, have none but what may be fairly described as imaginary. The way-to-India bugbear has long since ceased to excite reasonable apprehension; and, as to our trade in the Levant, surely we could protect it at much less cost, not merely to ourselves, but to humanity, than by a war every fifteen or twenty years to bar Russia within her present European limits. But, as we have already said, Russia will be barred by her immediate neighbours without any need of our interference; and the duty of our Government to British subjects is vastly more pressing than any duty it may be supposed to owe to the subjects of other Powers.

Then, lastly, it seems to us that some Power is bound to take the initiative in withdrawing wholly, if it be possible, from the existing European system of international obligation. What is that system? If applied to individuals instead of to nations, we should describe it as the most marked development of, and the strongest incentive to, ruffianism of the worst order. There is insane competition between the Powers to rival one another in the burdensomeness and deadly destructiveness of their respective armaments, and, when any two of them get to fighting, to drag others into the fray. International law and international morality are alike laughed at, and fraud, falsehood, and violence are only regarded as illegitimate when they do not pay. Chaos has come back to the international system. Might has taken the place of right. Righteousness seems to have been clean forgotten. Why should we mix ourselves up with such a system? Why should we forego, at such a moment, our policy of non-intervention? "Let the potsherds of the earth strive with the potsherds of the earth." It is no part of our business to join them. Our plain duty is to hold ourselves aloof from the general infatuation—to withdraw ourselves, as soon as may be, from all contact with this reign of misrule. This, let us hope, will be the aim of Her Majesty's advisers in the forthcoming Conference. They may thus, to some extent, repair the blunder of the Crimean war. They will best consult the honour and exalt the moral dignity of their country, by refusing to renew its connection with a system which is a constant barrier to the advance of civilisation.

THE RUSSIAN BUGBEAR.

If as much pains had been recently taken to ascertain the real condition of Russia as to excite alarm relative to her intentions and the loyalty of Prussia, much anxiety and monetary loss might have been spared. An immense superstructure has been built by the English press upon one single fact—the issue of Prince Gortschakoff's Note repudiating the Treaty of 1856. It was taken for granted by not a few of our influential newspapers that Russia meant war; that she was making great military preparations; that the Eastern Question was to be reopened; that Count Bismark was ready to sustain the claim of the Czar to break treaties; and that England—one alone of seven signatory Powers—must draw the sword, even if unsupported, in the interests of international law. The British people were worked up into an injurious panic, as though they had no Government to protect their rights, and as though our Foreign Minister, in the light of the full information he possessed, were incompetent to act with firmness and deliberation befitting the occasion. At length, the public seems to be somewhat ashamed of its precipitation, and can hardly make out how it is that the storm is blowing over so quietly. Yet a very little inquiry will suffice to show that our fears have been groundless, and that we have been the victims of ignorance and interested panic-mongers.

No reasonable person now believes that Count Bismark was cognisant of the *coup de théâtre* of Prince Gortschakoff. It created, as all ac-

counts agree, far more surprise and anxiety at Versailles than at London. We now know—as we ought at first to have concluded—that the Russian Note was a serious embarrassment to Germany in the crisis of a terrible war. The Prussian Chancellor has acted entirely upon this theory, and has done his utmost to repair the Russian blunder. If he had taken sides with Russia, Russia would have stood her ground. But in consequence of his attitude the Emperor Alexander has retreated from an untenable position. Though the offensive Note has not been, and was not likely to be, withdrawn, the Czar has eagerly accepted the suggestion of a Conference of the Powers to consider his claims to a revision of the Treaties of Paris, and he consents that the celebrated despatch shall be held to be non-existent. If, therefore, a Conference should be held at the close of the war, it will meet without being in any way shackled.

There appears, however, to be a remarkable misconception in this country as to the relations of the two great Powers east of the Rhine. Undoubtedly the two potentates are on very cordial terms, but their sentiments are not shared, to any large extent, by their respective subjects. Most of the Russian newspapers have spoken of the German victories with apprehension, if not hostile criticism, and have not concealed their sympathy with France. This is the feeling of a large section of the Russian aristocracy headed by the Czarevitch. Their anticipations do not point to an overthrow of Turkey with the connivance of Prussia, but to a struggle with Germany herself in the Baltic provinces. They do not believe in any *entente cordiale* between themselves and their formidable neighbours. It is remarkable that the German people hold the same views. At a time when there is so much fear that the Eastern Question will soon be reopened, the following extract from a remarkable letter from Dresden, which appears in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, may be read with special profit. The writer says:—

Apart from antipathies of race, which are more bitter between Germans and Russians than even between Germans and French, Germany as a nation feels that now she is a great Power she will, sooner or later, have to try her strength with her huge neighbour on the east after having asserted her superiority on the west. There are larger and richer German territories, still separated from Germany, in Austria; but it is hoped to recover these gradually and without a war. With Russia, on the other hand, there can be no compromise. She will certainly not give up her Baltic provinces without fighting, and she grows stronger every day. Germany is already over-populated; her resources are utilised to the full extent; and she will, probably, in twenty or thirty years, be neither more populous nor more wealthy than she is now. Russia, on the other hand, has an almost boundless territory, with a population which is increasing with tremendous rapidity; her army is improving, her mineral and agricultural resources are only now being opened up, and her roads and railways are multiplying on all sides. If Germany does not fight Russia within the next few years, she will have permanently lodged on her frontier a huge aggressive Power, with a wealth and population so much greater than her own, and she will again be reduced to the humiliating position of a vassal of the Czar, as before 1866.

But is Russia to be regarded as an aggressive Power in Europe? Is it not possible that the assumption is based more upon tradition and ignorance of her later history, than upon actual facts? The discrepancies on the subject between newspaper correspondents at St. Petersburg are almost ludicrous. One writer in the *Pall Mall Gazette* says that the War Department at St. Petersburg exhibits an almost feverish activity in all parts of the country; that Odessa is being fortified; that large stores of arms, ammunition, and provisions have been sent to Poland; and that General Milutin, the able administrator, who has for many years been labouring at the reorganisation of the army, is overwhelmed with work. The correspondent of the *Morning Post*, while admitting that preparation is going on, says that the great mass of Russian troops is so much required in Asia as well as Europe, that the number which could act upon the Danube is comparatively small. "The plain fact is that the Russian military system requires years to right itself, and its directors will not even allow it months." "No one who has travelled in Russia can have failed to perceive that she is not a military nation." Her soldiers are good for defensive, useless for aggressive purposes, and she has not a single able general. The defensive works at Kertch have been pronounced by Todleben to be "not worth a kopeck," while to rebuild Sebastopol "in all its former completeness" would require a fabulous outlay of money and time, neither of which can be spared by Russia at present." Such a conclusion will somewhat surprise people who have ideas equally vague and extravagant as to the military strength and preparedness of the "Northern Colossus." But it is remarkably confirmed by a large ironfounder who has travelled a good deal in Russia, and who thus

records his impressions in the *Manchester Examiner*:—

In my opinion Russia never was in a worse position to provoke a war than she is at this moment. The very season of the year is fatal to her, while to her probable adversaries it is no disadvantage. The vast plains between St. Petersburg and the Black Sea are already acquiring their winter covering of deep frozen snow, facilitating, it is true, locomotion by sledge, but a great enemy to railway communication. Further, the southern lines are miserably bad in construction, and insufficiently supplied with rolling stock, even for ordinary purposes. There are but two railways to the south of a single line each, one to Taganrog, on the Sea of Azoff, and the other to Odessa, on the Black Sea. I had the opportunity of travelling along both these routes last May. It appeared to me that an ordinary goods train, such as we see on our lines, passing once over these railways would injure them so much as to stop the traffic for weeks, and we must not forget the distances between Moscow and the South coast are from 800 to 1,000 miles. In the Crimea, and along the whole coast of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azoff, there is not an important Government establishment of any kind, nor yet a completed fortress, though they are busy fortifying the heights commanding the Straits of Kertch. Kiev is the only formidable centre of military strength south of Moscow, and from Kiev to the Black Sea there is the most wretchedly constructed single line of rails in the world. Such being what I believe the real state of Russia—a state of transition and peaceful reform—is it not impossible to credit or debit her with the intention of provoking war?

During the last ten years, the writer says, he has enjoyed great facilities for observing the spirit of the Russian people, and "only one object seems to have actuated both the Government and the people—that of developing, at any temporary sacrifice, the internal resources of the country." If to such weighty testimony be added the fact that the Czar has just increased the furlough of a large number of his troops, and that he has satisfied the Sultan himself that his Government have no intention to reopen the Eastern question, there cannot be much cause for panic on our part.

The Opposition will, it is said, make the necessity of increased armaments the main feature of their tactics during the coming Session. On what ground should England arm? Why should we follow the insensate example of the great continental nations, and when the exhaustion of both Germany and France will, for a long time to come, compel a peace policy? Even the most inveterate panic-mongers do not deny that our imposing fleet is adequate for defensive purposes. Why, then, should we attempt to become a great military Power, unless we are disposed again to meddle and muddle in continental politics? Whom shall we have to trouble us when the terrible war which is now drawing to its close, is over? We have nothing to fear from France; and, according to the latest evidence, Germany will be disposed to enter upon closer relations with us. As to Russia, we have shown that the fear of any aggression on her part, either upon Turkey or any other European country, is a mere bugbear.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

Last week's elections seem to have had the remarkable effect of satisfying nearly every party interested in them, except perhaps, the High Church. We ourselves see many reasons for hopefulness in the result. The Board fairly represents the various classes, creeds, and opinions of metropolitan society. It is a microcosm. Vested interests, prejudice and prescription are amply represented. But such ingredients can hardly in this case do much harm to the cause of genuine national education. The principles which are to govern the administrative action of the Board are very clearly laid down in the Act, and cannot be ignored. For the rest, we believe that, in so mixed an assembly—an Educational Parliament, in fact, of forty-nine members—long experience, business capacity, high character, and earnestness of purpose, will carry the day. At least one-third of the Board is composed of men alike able and liberal, who will bring far more than an average capacity to a task of great responsibility and delicacy, and each one of whom is capable of contributing something out of his special experience towards the common decisions.

The election of a body to represent the whole of London was a unique event, and it is not surprising that in a first experiment of this kind there should be considerable errors and irregularities. If the machinery for taking the votes did not actually break down, it did not work smoothly. The scheme for registering the votes in secret, though on the whole successful, was far from perfect, and the difficulties of the election were increased by the action of the cumulative vote, and by the inadequate arrangements for identifying the ratepayers as they came up to the poll. In most of the metropolitan divisions many hundreds of votes could not be recorded at the last rush before eight o'clock, owing to the absence of the requi-

site facilities. Working men were the chief sufferers by this defect. There have been many complaints and protests on the subject. Some few candidates have, by this mishap, unquestionably lost seats which they might otherwise have secured, though we doubt whether any of the elections can now be vitiated.

The two most remarkable results of last week's elections are the success of the lady candidates, and the failure of the working men who had been put forward. Miss Garrett, who was returned for Marylebone, polled 47,858 votes, nearly double the number of any other candidate in any division; and Miss Emily Davies headed the poll for Greenwich. This is a great triumph for the advocates of woman's rights, and we hope that the cause of education will profit by the new element which will be officially represented in the new Board. The failure of the artisan candidates is due mainly to their own divisions and rivalries; in a less degree to the varied opinions of working men—a majority of whom probably expect to be as adequately served by tried friends of superior position as by men of their own class. We could have wished that such representative artisans as Mr. Potter and Mr. Applegarth, had been returned, but the chief reason of their failure is written on the returns of votes for their respective divisions. Mr. Lucraft, who was elected for Finsbury, is the sole working man on the London Board.

Not only have none of the selected lists, based upon a nice adjustment of denominational claims, been accepted entire by the ratepayers of London, but the experience of last week shows that the supporters of secular education have been more timid than the occasion required. The Bible was in a most unseemly fashion dragged into the educational controversy, but the attempts to use it as a means of securing success did not altogether answer. Bigotry and misrepresentation were not on the whole, popular weapons. Three candidates in particular, Mr. Chatfield Clarke, the Rev. B. Waugh, and the Rev. J. A. Pierson suffered nothing by their courageous advocacy of advanced opinions in reference to religious education. Each of these gentlemen was elected in spite of local combinations against them and bitter misrepresentations, although neither of them possessed many of the electioneering advantages enjoyed by their rivals. A bolder policy on the part of the secularists would probably have yielded a more adequate result, and dissipated a great deal of spurious, if not insincere sentiment that passed current during the election.

Next week the Education Board of London will be called upon to choose a chairman for the three years it has been elected to serve. The duties which will devolve upon that gentleman will absorb much time and attention, and the Act wisely provides that he may be a salaried official. In so varied a body there is ample material out of which to choose a suitable chairman. Great administrative capacity, business habits, and a judicial spirit will be required in the occupant of so onerous a position. Other things being equal, there would be an advantage in the head of the new Board being a member of the House of Commons, which would increase the responsibility of himself and his fellow members. If, as we believe is likely, the majority of the denominational schools of the metropolis will be transferred to the Board, it is manifest that the energies both of chairman and members will be greatly taxed.

THE PROGRESS OF LONDON.

There is something inexpressibly sad and painful in the strongly marked contrast afforded by the present condition of the two leading capitals of Europe—Paris and London. A few short months ago, the French metropolis was rapidly becoming one of the most magnificent cities the world had ever beheld. All that taste and money could effect in the way of embellishing Paris was done, although not without murmurs from those at whose cost principally these changes have been made. Even aristocratic Vienna and majestic Berlin could not resist a feeling of jealousy at the admiration which the numerous charms and attractions of Paris extorted from all who visited that congenial abode of ease, luxury, and sensuous pleasure. After lingering amid its stately boulevards, splendid palaces, costly mansions, public buildings, tastefully designed gardens and promenades, theatres, museums, picture galleries, and other well-known features of the gay French capital, it was with a sensation of disappointment that we gazed on the dingy, smoke-blackened conglomeration of hideously-designed dwelling-houses, gloomy-looking factories and workshops, narrow streets, labyrinthine courts, and flaunting gin-palaces, which form the capital of the British Empire. Here and there a thoroughfare

like Regent-street, or a building like the Royal Exchange, assisted in relieving the dead level of monotony, but these only rendered the prevailing want of taste more apparent. With more wealth, energy, and enterprise than ever Paris might hope to ever possess, London lingered far behind her continental rival in all matters in which public taste was concerned. And in other matters also. Who, after experiencing the pleasure of a stroll on the cleanly swept Boulevards, has not thought with disgust of the muddy, slippery, thoroughfares which the English metropolis seems to take such delight in? And so with many other things—gas-lighting for instance. Paris, with dearer gas than in London, is far more brilliantly illuminated, and therefore safer to traverse after dark. But these were the results of having a directing head. Nothing was done piecemeal in the French capital. System pervaded everything.

But if we are slow to learn, we make good use of what we do learn. London is fast assuming a singularly picturesque character. Its great warehouses and other industrial establishments are being rebuilt on a size and scale corresponding with the wealth and importance of the firms to which they belong. Within a radius of a single mile from the Mansion House are to be found an immense number of really palatial structures, many of which are designed with rare taste, and occasionally exhibiting a touch of real architectural genius. Every week adds to the number of these, and should the work of reconstruction proceed unchecked, a few years hence will behold London transformed even more completely than was Paris under the fostering care of her famous Prefect of the Seine. The key note of future improvement is afforded by the Thames Embankment. The Metropolitan Board of Works have in this respect proved more practical than M. Haussman. That individual attempted too much, and had to leave his work incomplete. The Metropolitan Parliament takes one thing at a time and does it effectually. This is the true John Bull style, but if it has its drawbacks, it has also its advantages. It has at least the merit of being sure. By concentrating their attention on the construction of the Embankment and the formation of a few new thoroughfares, the Metropolitan Board of Works have done more towards assisting the architectural improvement of London than if they had taken upon themselves the impossible task of realising Wren's famous plan for rebuilding the metropolis. The new thoroughfare, with its broad expanse of roadway, lined with trees, will form the great centre from which all future great metropolitan improvements will naturally radiate. Already it has begun its mission of educating the Londoners and awakening in them truer perceptions of art taste. There are few finer views than that afforded by the Embankment at Charing Cross Bridge, looking towards the Houses of Parliament. It is a scene which ought to make the reputation of a painter. But how much grander will it not be when stately buildings and luxuriant gardens line the new riverway!

The primary effects of the existence of such a body as the Metropolitan Board of Works, and the labours achieved by it, are illustrated by the character of the various private bills connected with the metropolis, which will occupy the attention of Parliament during the coming Session. First there is the plan proposed by the Commissioners of Works and Buildings for building a new Mint on the Embankment, near Blackfriars Bridge. The new structure would extend from the City Gas Works to the Temple, a circumstance which appears to indicate the probable removal of the Gas Works to other and more appropriate quarters at no distant period. Should this be the case, we may yet see the original plan of the architect adhered to, and the Embankment lined with public buildings. But the Government have to erect other buildings, besides a new Mint, the new law courts in the Strand, for instance. Notwithstanding the seeming delay in commencing their erection, the Government have not been idle. The lesson of the new Houses of Parliament has evidently been studied by them. They propose to acquire more land, so that a sufficiently extensive site may be obtained, for it is necessary to provide for the future as well as the present requirements of the legal business of the country. Should the Government obtain the desired Parliamentary sanction, we may expect the erection of the new law courts to be commenced forthwith. There are several metropolitan railway bills, and it is curious to note the evident anxiety on the part of the various promoters to disarm the hostility of the Board of Works. That body has become the great ogre of the unscrupulous speculator. No plan which includes

the slightest disfigurement of any metropolitan thoroughfare is safe from their active opposition. The mistake of the Ludgate Hill viaduct is not likely to be repeated. It is proposed to erect a new railway-station in connection with the London, Chatham, and Dover Line, on the Holborn Viaduct, but the necessary permission is not likely to be obtained, unless the company furnish ample guarantees that the structure shall harmonise in style with the general features of the new thoroughfare.

But it is in supplying what may be termed the requirements of social life in London that the private bill system is being most largely used. For instance, there are the city markets. The increasing inefficiency of these has long been a matter of complaint. It is now proposed to enlarge Billingsgate, and to prohibit the sale of meat, skins, and hides at Leadenhall, reserving the latter place for poultry exclusively. Again, notice has been given by a bill making it compulsory in the various London water companies to afford a constant water supply, to improve the quality of the water, to sell it at a cheaper rate, and to provide a more summary method of recovering penalties for infringing these conditions. Moreover, it is also proposed to take powers on behalf of the City of London Corporation and the Metropolitan Board of Works to buy up the companies, if hereafter it should be thought desirable to do so. A somewhat similar bill in relation to the metropolitan supply of gas was announced, but we are not certain whether it will be proceeded with. This is not all, for the Metropolitan Board propose to take charge of Leicester-square, and to complete the arrangements for preserving Hampstead Heath to the use of the public. Of tramway bills there are eleven. One of these proposes a line from Kensington to Charing-cross; another runs from Paddington to Holborn-circus; a third running from Kensington, partly by way of the Thames Embankment and Queen Victoria street to the City. These will all tend to facilitate the street traffic, and thus indirectly tend to the improvement of the metropolis. There are some lesser bills, but of these there is no need to make mention. London has earnestly entered on the work of self-improvement, and although, at the outset, last in the race, bids fair to be first at the goal. That the victory is not always to the swift, the present sadly altered state of Paris but too truly testifies; but let us not be too loud in our self-congratulations—we have done much, but more remains to be done. We may build palaces, but we must also look to the cottages. Are we so doing?

During the month of November twelve tons and a half of diseased fish were seized in the markets of the metropolis.

THE CENSUS OF 1871.—We understand that the commission for the forthcoming census of 1871 for Ireland has been nominated. The Commissioners are:—Mr. William Donnelly, Registrar-General; Sir William Robert Wilde, M.P., and Mr. George W. Abraham, LL.D. All filled the same posts in the census of 1861. The census in England will be taken by Major Graham, Registrar-General; Dr. Farr and Mr. James T. Hammick, assistants to Registrar-General; and Mr. W. Clode, acting as secretary. A staff of 100 clerks will be specially employed for digesting the returns. The work is expected to occupy three years.—*British Medical Journal*.

THE MARKET FOR AUSTRALIAN MEAT.—Messrs. McCall and Co. state in a letter to the *Times*:—"We should feel obliged if you will allow us to state through your columns that we have received from our correspondents, the Melbourne Meat Preserving Company, since the 1st of January last, 38,000 cases, containing 3,070,865 lb. of cooked tinned meat, and that at the present moment there are not 200 cases on hand. The receipts of cooked tinned meats in London from the numerous other companies engaged in the trade have, in the aggregate, probably reached a like figure, and there are not now 500 cases in stock. There have been shipments of meat cured with salt, or with bi-sulphate of soda, lime, or ammonia, and packed in tallow. Of the success or otherwise of these experiments we cannot speak from our own knowledge, but as regards the cooked tinned meat the above figures speak for themselves."

MR. HUGHES ON AMERICA.—Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., addressing his constituents at Frome on Friday night, referred to the capture in Canadian waters of a New England fishing-boat by an English cruiser, than which, he said, nothing could be more unlucky. The fisheries question kept alive most bitter feelings—feelings which were natural enough, because England was insisting upon rights which her statesmen felt could not be supported. Since he had been to America he was more than ever persuaded that the people of the United States were England's true allies, and would reply cordially to any advances on the part of this country. He trusted that the present Government would forthwith take action and settle the Alabama claims and the fisheries question. Then England and America would be on terms of real friendship, and unitedly powerful enough to maintain the peace of the world.

THE WAR.

GREAT SORTIES FROM PARIS.

On Wednesday last General Trochu, after a number of feints in other directions, made his grand sortie from Paris to open communications with the Army of the Loire towards Fontainebleau, which Prince Frederick Charles had quitted. On the preceding day proclamations were issued by General Trochu and General Ducrot, which caused a great sensation. General Trochu, in his manifesto, threw the responsibility for the blood which was about to be shed upon those whose detestable ambition trampled under foot the principles of justice and modern civilisation. General Ducrot in his proclamation says, "I swear before the whole nation not to re-enter Paris unless dead or victorious." There was a furious cannonading from nearly all the forts during the night, and in the morning the French appeared simultaneously on different points in very considerable force between the Seine and the Marne. The main sortie was made by General Ducrot with 50,000 men against the Wurtembergers at Villiers, flanked by the 6th Corps, while a vigorous attack was also directed against the 4th Corps at Epinal, and a sortie made against the Guards Corps. The French gained a temporary success against the Wurtemberg position. The Marne, just before joining the Seine close to the *enceinte* of Paris at its south-east angle, makes two deep loops—the northernmost towards the city, the southernmost from it, forming exactly a huge S. Champigny lies on the left or outer bank of the Marne, just at the middle of the S, and Bonneuil on the same bank at its foot. It seems that, though Ducrot commanded the French, General Trochu was present. They crossed the loops of the S on the morning of the 30th of November under cover of a heavy fire from all the forts, and aided by separate dashes on the north side, to employ and detain the Guards and Saxons from giving help to the east. Here the Wurtembergers were charged with the care of the front attacked, and at the first yielded ground very considerably; Ducrot not only successfully crossing the river at eight points, as previously arranged, but gaining posts occupied by the investors at Mont Mesly, outside Bonneuil, and advancing beyond Champigny to the east, taking also Villiers, a village a mile and a half farther up the stream. Parts of the Saxon Corps, the 2nd and 6th, joined in the fight, which extended on both flanks, Vinoy striking to the west and south of the rest of Ducrot's attack along the line of the Seine. At dusk the French had been driven back from Mont Mesly and their other more advanced positions, but retained the villages on the stream, which they had used to debouch through. Both sides suffered great loss, the French fighting with great desperation. They sustained a considerable loss in prisoners.

On Thursday, both sides remained quiet, and there was an armistice of a few hours for the burial of the dead and the collection of the wounded. It is said that General Ducrot was killed.

A special telegram in the *Times* states that, on Friday morning, the German troops, consisting of the 12th Royal Saxon Army Corps, the Wurtembergers, and the 2nd Prussian Army Corps, commenced an attack on the French, with a view to retake the villages of Champigny and Brie, which had remained in their hands since the 29th of November. This was accomplished at eight o'clock. Afterwards there was a great sortie by the French from Paris. The German troops fought for hours under a terrible fire from the forts Nugent and Rosny and the batteries of Mount Avron. The French retired at three o'clock, leaving several hundred prisoners in the hands of the Germans. Brie is now free from troops belonging to either army. There were great losses both on the part of the French and Germans. The Saxon Regiment of Chasseurs and the 8th Saxon Regiment fought most gallantly. Nearly all their officers were killed and wounded.

On Sunday the French destroyed the pontoon bridge which they had erected on the Marne, near Brie, and retired behind the river, placing their army more to the north in the Vincennes wood. The losses of the Saxon troops during the fighting before Paris from the 30th ult. to the 2nd inst. amounted to seventy-six officers and 2,100 rank and file. In telegraphing this statement to the King of Saxony Prince George expresses the opinion that further offensive movements on the part of the Parisians "are improbable." The Wurtemberg losses on the 30th were forty officers and 800 men; on the 2nd of December, thirty officers, eighteen cadets, and 800 rank and file.

The news of the sortie from Paris was received at Tours by special balloon, and, being highly coloured, created intense sensation. M. Gambetta addressed a great crowd at the Prefecture. He dwelt on the untiring energy, patience, and foresight of General Trochu, the devotion of General Ducrot, and the magnificent concurrence of all engaged in this gigantic effort. All offensive means were combined, and the sortie was supported by the forts, gunboats, and the iron-clad wagons on the circular railway. The troops and Mobile and National Guards fought heroically. M. Gambetta said, in conclusion:—

I have good hope! Your sons will return to you victorious; victory revisits our arms: the genius of France, momentarily veiled, again smiles radiantly upon us. The Prussians, disconcerted on all sides by

our new-found vigour, are learning to retreat; they were routed at Etrepagny, and Amiens was hastily evacuated on the news of the victory of Paris. Take courage, our Army of the Loire is resolutely advancing to meet its brethren of Paris, who can no doubt issue. Now we see the difference between a despot fighting to satisfy caprice and a nation fighting for the triumph of justice, right, and eternal honour. This victory belongs to the Republic, for the Republic has accomplished all we have seen. France is raised, re-established by her own strength, after having been betrayed and abandoned by all. This is what a really free nation can do.

M. Gambetta was frequently interrupted by shouts of "Vive Paris!" "Vive la République!"

General Trochu reports as follows from the heights between Champigny and Villiers, under date of the 2nd inst., 1.45 p.m.:—"The Prussians with enormous forces attacked the French position at daybreak to-day. The fighting has lasted more than seven hours, and at the moment of sending off this report the enemy is giving way along the whole line and once more abandoning the heights. I have ridden along the line of skirmishers from Champigny to Brie, and have been received with enthusiastic cheers by the troops. I expect that the enemy will return to the attack, and that the battle will last all day."

General Trochu's next report is dated Nogent, December 2, 5.30 p.m.:—"The second great battle which I expected has been more decisive than its predecessor. The enemy attacked us at the *réveil*, with fresh troops and reserves. We have fought three hours to maintain our position, and five hours to carry the positions of the enemy, where we bivouacked for the night."

The *Official Journal* of the 4th says:—"The Prussians at daybreak on the 3rd commenced a series of attacks on our vanguard, preceded by a short cannonade. Calm was quickly restored in the French positions on the Marne. The Prussian losses on the 2nd were considerable. According to statements of prisoners whole regiments were destroyed. The 3rd of December was devoted to improving the condition of our troops, who bear up with great fortitude against the severe weather. The army of General Ducrot bivouacked on the night of the 3rd in the wood of Vincennes, having recrossed the Marne during the day. He has concentrated at this point in order to give effect to his operations. About 400 prisoners have been taken by the French."

DEFEATS OF THE LOIRE ARMY—
SURRENDER OF ORLEANS AND ROUEN.

Notwithstanding his late repulse at Beaune-la-Rolande, which was much more serious than at first reported,* General d'Aurelle des Paladines did his best to co-operate with General Trochu. The corps of General Chanzy, which previously lay about St. Péré, just six miles north-west of Orleans, advanced on the 1st due north to the attack of the Prussian positions, occupied presumably by Von der Tann's corps. The first line carried was through the hamlets of Guillonville and Terminier, which form the base or western side of a small equilateral triangle of about a mile and a quarter each way, with the apex at Patay pointing downwards. According to General Chanzy's report, he then followed up his successes by carrying a second line beyond the first, on the road from Orleans to Chartres, and Prince Frederick Charles fell back on Etampes.

Meanwhile, the Duke of Mecklenburg and his 35,000 men were called from the Le Mans district not to cross the Loire, nor to fall on the left of d'Aurelle, but simply to meet that General's seriously-threatening advance in its front. In fact, Prince Frederick Charles without them plainly felt his three corps and Von der Tann's insufficient. Accordingly they came in on his right about the 30th, and on the 2nd he ordered a decided offensive counter movement, which the French accounts honestly admit the success of. The 15th Corps was disordered by the attack of the 22nd Prussian division aided by cavalry, and lost its chief, with between 1,000 and 2,000 other prisoners, and about eleven guns. Pressed back behind Artenay, it naturally compelled Chanzy to follow its retreat, and the whole French left retired on the forest close to Orleans. On the 3rd the Prince followed up his advantage by sharp attacks with his 3rd and 9th Corps (all his army being used on these two days, except the 18th), and carried Chéville, on the Paris road, only nine miles from Orleans. On Sunday it was telegraphed from Tours that the Army of the Loire was waiting, in strongly entrenched positions to the north of Orleans, for the concentrated attack of the Prussians. Colonel Charette was wounded and a prisoner. The same evening the German troops in front of Orleans carried the railway-station of the city and the Faubourg St. Jean de la Buelle by storm, while the army detachment under the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg pushed forward from the westward to the vicinity of the city. The French retreated, the Germans pursuing. The result is thus recorded in the German telegrams:—"Prince Frederick Charles occupied Orleans on the night of the 5th, after having advanced, fighting for three days with continuous success, and having stormed the railway-station and the suburbs. About forty cannon and many thousand prisoners have, up to the present, fallen into our hands. The enemy is being constantly pursued. Our loss is proportionately moderate."

King William, in his telegram to Queen Augusta, says that Orleans was occupied without being stormed. "God be thanked." A Tours telegram of

* Further particulars from German sources are now published of the engagement with the Army of the Loire on the 28th ult. at Beaune-la-Rolande. The French left 1,000 men on the field, and had 4,000 men wounded. One thousand six hundred un wounded prisoners fell into the hands of the Germans, and this number was afterwards increased. The German losses are stated to have been about 1,000 men.

the 5th says:—"Prussians were between Orleans and Beaugency yesterday. Trains of medicaments for the French wounded were unable to reach Orleans. The Duke de Luynes was killed in the action of yesterday."

The official report issued by M. Gambetta and his colleagues on Monday speaks of General d'Aurelle des Paladines in terms which imply that he has lost the confidence of the Government. From an unofficial source it is stated that there is some talk of trying him by court-martial.

M. Gambetta tried to get into Orleans before it was surrendered, but did not succeed. He had a very narrow escape. When his special train was pulled up the Uhlans fired at him, and he only escaped (the *Daily News* correspondent telegraphs) as by a miracle.

A Versailles telegram states that an officer has been sent into Paris with a letter to state that Orleans had been taken, and the Army of the Loire routed, with the loss of thirty guns and several thousand prisoners.

General Manteuffel instead of retreating towards Paris marched upon Rouen, which surrendered on Monday to the 8th Corps of the 1st Army. The information is conveyed in a telegram from Havre, dated yesterday, to the following effect:—"The Mobile Guards and the National Guards under Generals Briand and Estancelin have been completely routed before Rouen, to the number of 20,000. They are falling back on Havre. Before leaving they spiked the guns and sunk several in the river. The Prussians entered yesterday at ten or twelve o'clock, and disarmed all the Mobile Guards they found there. On Sunday Rouen was in a state of the greatest disorder. The ammunition and money have been sent to Havre. Uhlans are reported at about thirty-six kilometres from Havre."

General Faidherbe has arrived at Lille, and taken the command of the French Army of the North. There seems no doubt but that Werder's attempt on Autun has been severely repulsed by Garibaldi. How far the reports of after successes by the latter are true, it is not yet possible to say. Whither d'Aurelle's headquarters are removed we are not informed, and it would depend, of course, upon whether he decided to retreat down the Loire on Tours, or due south on Vierzon, or to his right rear by Nevers. When Le Mans is occupied all communication by rail between the North and South of France will be cut off.

A serious rise in the waters of the Loire and Cher is announced by a French paper. It is hoped that this will interfere with the operations of the enemy. The Prefect of the Loiret, announcing this fact to the prefects of Blois, Tours, Angers, and Nantes, says it is supposed that the greatest height to which the rise in the Loire will attain will be about 1 metre 30 centimetres; that in the Cher would probably reach a height of 2 metres 55 centimetres.

THE SIEGE OF PARIS.

The *Daily News* correspondent with the Saxon army who was formerly at Metz, writes on the 1st inst.:—"Habitual readers may have observed how completely yesterday's work fulfilled the anticipations as to the probable course of events which I ventured to express in a letter of a few days ago. There has been the sortie to the west, another to the north, a threatened one on the east (towards Le Bourget), and the great and seriously meant attack which I predicted on the south-east has taken place, not, indeed, in the neighbourhood of Villejuif, the locality I assigned it, but further to the east, and on the other side of the Seine. I think it may safely be assumed that their intention was to break through at the latter point and at once relieve Paris of superfluous mouths, and let loose a field army to hang on the rear of the besiegers, and co-operate with the Army of the Loire. Had the attempt been successful, its success would have gone far to raise the siege of Paris, at all events for a time. But the iron grip of the German was too strong. The history of the siege of Paris is the history of the siege of Metz over again. The Germans throw their cordon round and round, they choose their ground, they plant their feet firmly down upon it, and hold to it with a grim, quiet, terribly inflexible tenacity. The French inside having lost the comparative chance open to them in the early days, while as yet the German foot had not settled itself quite surely on the ground, are now beating themselves furiously on the stern barrier that surrounds it, all impotent, notwithstanding the unquestionable conduct and spirit which they demonstrate, to hew a gap through that barrier."

It is reported from Brussels that if the Orleans army should capitulate, Paris will be summoned to surrender in three days. A clear statement of the position of France will be sent in to the Government, and the following terms:—The Regulars and the Garde Mobile to be prisoners of war. The National Guard and the irregulars to be disarmed and allowed to return into private life. The forts, cannons, and munitions of war to be given up. The regular garrison to march out with the honours of war. If the surrender is refused, the siege will be proceeded with in the regular way, but bombardment will only be resorted to in extreme need. There are no siege guns in position.

NOTES AND INCIDENTS.

The King of Prussia has invited the Kings of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and Saxony to Versailles to be present at the entry into Paris.

Preparations are making to embody 150,000 more Landwehr men, in case France continues the war after the capture of Paris.

The *National Zeitung* relates that a few days ago the French officers detained in Belgium were invited to assemble at M. Zachard's, the French Envoy at Brussels, where they met M. Richard, the French

Army Inspector, who, in the name of his Government, asked them to break their parole, fly to France, and re-enter the army. Officers were wanted, and they would be immediately promoted.

It is said that a well-known clothing firm at Oxford have received orders for 40,000 pairs of winter trousers for the Gardes Mobiles of France.

It is stated that, in anticipation of the fall of Paris, speculators are taking measures to collect large stocks of provisions and colonial wares at Havre and other places.

The *Times* correspondent at the headquarters of the Saxon Army Corps on the north-east of Paris says:—"Bazaine surrendered Metz in the nick of time for the German armies, that is now certain. Had he held out for a few days longer, and prevented Moltke from sending the Duke of Mecklenburg and Prince Charles south and General Manteuffel north, things would have been very embarrassing, if not positively serious, for us before now. Had not the army before Metz been enabled to come down and keep open our communications, the investing armies north and south of Paris might by this time have been obliged to fight battles to prevent themselves from being invested, or something very like it."

The *Cologne Gazette* of Thursday publishes intelligence from Châlons, according to which orders have been received for the reconstruction of the camp at Châlons, and preparations to be made for the accommodation of 100,000 French prisoners, in the event of the fall of Paris; the Prussian Government not being desirous of increasing the number of prisoners interned in Germany.

A letter from Cassel of Dec. 5 says:—"The Emperor observed in conversation that no peace was likely to be made until the men of Sept. 4 had exhausted the very last means of defence. 'Better thus,' he said, 'as otherwise they would always claim that France could have been saved by them.'"

It is stated that Sir Peter Tait, of Limerick, has entered into a contract for the supply of 150,000 uniforms for a continental army, and that in a fortnight another contract for the supply of 200,000 uniforms will be made.

M. de Fonvielle, who escaped from Paris in a balloon, and intends, if possible, to return by the same means, delivered a lecture on Saturday, at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on the actual condition of Paris. He said the cry of Paris, in spite of all attempts at starvation, was no surrender at any price. They had two months' provisions and 40,000 horses still available, and he spoke in the highest terms of the enthusiasm of the troops.

The War Victims Fund which has been instituted for the relief of the peasantry and other non-combatant sufferers in France and Germany, is administered by a committee of the Society of Friends, and appears to have already afforded much substantial aid to the inhabitants of the villages around Metz. The subscriptions already amount to upwards of £13,000, but it is calculated that the charge on the fund for food alone, in order to give 20,000 people some kind of subsistence at the cost of 1s. a week, will amount to £20,000 if the supply be continued until April or May of next year.

At a meeting on Monday afternoon of the committee appointed a week ago to call a public meeting of citizens of London in the Guildhall to urge steps in favour of peace, Mr. Merriman, the chairman, reported that the requisition to the Lord Mayor was being signed in all parts of the City, and about 200 influential names had already been obtained. The sub-committee proposed that, after the meeting at Guildhall, a deputation should wait upon Mr. Gladstone with a memorial.

Prussia has lent to the Strasbourg Savings Bank 1,000,000*fr.* to assist the poor whose deposits were transferred to the French Exchequer.

An authoritative contradiction is sent from Wilhelmshütte of a statement that a treaty has been signed between the King of Prussia and the ex-Emperor Napoleon.

Four parcels of mails were picked up on the beach at Cadgwich within the Lizard on Friday, presumed to have been dropped or washed ashore from the balloon seen off the Eddystone lighthouse on the 29th ult. The dates on the wrappers are Paris, November 28. Fears are entertained that the balloon may have perished, the wind having been blowing due east for several days.

The French refugees in Brussels number 37,000.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

SAUSAGE-MAKING FOR THE PRUSSIAN ARMY.—The *Weser Zeitung* gives a description of the manufactory of Prussian army stores at Berlin. More than 1,700 persons, adults and youths, of both sexes, are engaged from morning till night in preparing 150,000*lb.* of peas pudding (*erbwurst*,—literally, pea sausage) and 240,000 rations of meat and vegetable preserves, which are daily despatched by railway. The largest room in the building is devoted to the preparation of peaspudding. Swine's flesh, especially bacon and hams, are first cooked in twelve large saucepans. The other components of the sausage are pea flour, salt, and the so-called "*lupus*," the name humorously given by the inventor to the secret ingredient which makes the article keep and gives it an agreeable flavour. When the mixture is cooked it is poured into pails, and by skilful kneading the pea sausage soon becomes firm, and is enclosed in a covering, not of skin, but of parchment. Boys and girls carry the mixture on wheelbarrows to the packing-room, where 400 women and girls, after cleansing the outside from grease, affix on every portion the following label:—"Put ten ounces, or one-third of a sausage, freed from the coating, into one and a-half pint of cold water, stir it up, and let it cook for ten minutes." The sausages are carefully packed in pairs, and are sent to the cooper's

workshop, where they are stowed into 150*lb.* chests, nailed up, and sent off. The sausage or pudding becomes in time as hard as stone. The genuine article is not obtainable by the public, though imitations of it are sold. Turnips, carrots, and celery for the preserves are dressed and cut by about 120 women. The tin cases of the preserves employ 120 workmen; 100 oxen are daily slaughtered, and 275 cwt. of bacon daily bought for the manufactory. The preserves, already soldered up in cases, are boiled in the so-called marine baths. Labels with directions are placed on every case. Everything is made the most of, the bones being cooked and supplying excellent broth. Eighteen saucepans are used for preparing "*gulasch*"—a mixture of beef and maize, which is much relished by the troops. The works cover about six acres, and are now the property of the State. There are similar establishments at Frankfurt and Mayence.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL'S PLAYGROUND.—A German soldier, whose letter to his friends is published in a Berlin paper, thus describes the present condition of the Prince Imperial's playground:—"My present residence is as romantic as anybody could desire. I am sitting in a French tent, erected in the Prince Imperial's playground, behind the burnt Palace of St. Cloud. Imperial mattresses serve for a bed, and silk sofa and chair cushions for pillows. For blankets we use various things—Turkey carpets and other articles from the Palace. We also make use of the splendid tea and coffee services, of Sévres porcelain or Alfride, the Imperial plate, glasses, and bottles, on all which, and innumerable other objects, the inevitable 'N.' with the crown above it, is inscribed. The Prince's playground is a large grass plot, with a miniature railway in the middle, with tunnel, bridges, and a station where soldiers arrived and whence they were despatched. Of course these artificial contrivances are now ruined, only the foundation of the station and a few fragments of the carriages remaining. There are likewise some remains of a gymnastic apparatus, which the soldiers burn up in making their soup or coffee. In the centre of the ground is a large flagstaff, on which the princely flag used to be hoisted, announcing to the Parisians when the 'Child of France' condescended to play. The place is bordered on two sides with limes, the third affords a prospect of the now destroyed Palace, and the fourth is occupied by antique statuary, which have become the butt for the humour of our troops. Compassionating their nakedness, they made requisitions in the neighbourhood in order to provide clothing. An Apollo is provided with a chimney-pot hat with a black and white cockade, and a black coat with white buttons. The neighbouring Juno was furnished by the good-humoured soldiers with a red crinoline and a quilted dress. Such is war!"

A SERVANT GIRL'S VISIT TO PARIS.—The *Salut Public* of Lyons tells a romantic story of a girl at Belley, servant to a wealthy landowner, who is said to have recently paid a visit to Paris without being hindered by the Prussian lines. On her recovery from a serious illness, in a way considered by some miraculous, she informed her mistress of her intention, pursuant to orders from on high, to proceed to Orleans and Paris. She had a commission, she said, to speak to the Mayor of Orleans and the Governor of Paris. What she had to tell them would be revealed to her when the moment of the interview arrived. In reply to all objections she insisted that she should be able to pass. She started without giving notice, without money, but called on a priest, who appeared to expect her, and took her to a railway-station. She arrived at Orleans just as the "Prussians" were retiring, had an interview with the mayor, and then set off for Paris on foot, reached the French outposts without obstruction, asked for the Governor, and delivered her commission to General Trochu. She forgot, however, the message he gave her for the Mayor of Orleans. She again passed through the German lines, returned to her employers, and has resumed her ordinary avocation. Her conduct is irreproachable, her understanding of ordinary degree, and her piety sincere, but not extravagant.

BAVARIAN BRUTALITY.—The *Daily News* correspondent with the Duke of Mecklenburg's army says:—"There is a great deal of the brute in the common Bavarian soldiers. In every town that they enter they pillage, plunder, and ruthlessly destroy. Their last act of this character was at Digny. So long as they know that there are Prussians to support them they fight with brutal force, but where they are left to themselves, they have not sufficient moral courage to carry them through, and to this fact is to be ascribed their defeat at Orleans." The Bavarian Corps is not kept in reserve merely because it was in the fight on the 9th, but out of political motives. From the beginning of the war all precedence and privileges were given to the Bavarians by the Crown Prince, including the right dearest to a Bavarian heart—that of pillaging without limit. The object was to cajole them, but the result has been that they have become overbearing and exacting in their demands. A different policy is now to be pursued towards them, and it is said that the Second Bavarian Corps is to be moved from the post of honour that it holds before Paris."

PROSPECT OF A GUERRILLA WAR IN FRANCE.—The following is an extract from the official report, dated Versailles, the 26th of November:—"Nearly the whole of the forces at the disposal of the French Government have been concentrated between Blois, Tours, and Orleans. If defeated they will probably retreat to Lyons, which is strongly fortified and provisioned. All around Orleans the country people, instigated to fight by the priests, who have been ordered by Bishop Dupanloup to preach a crusade,

have begun a guerilla warfare against the Germans. Patrols are fired at from every building and every hedge. Officers carrying orders are shot down by labourers, seemingly working in the fields, but provided with rifles as well as spades. To avenge these assassinations all non-soldiers carrying arms are immediately executed. Not a few priests are now awaiting trial. The towns of Sens and Nemours have been severely punished for conniving at the surprise of Prussian detachments by Francs-tireurs."

THE FOOD QUESTION IN PARIS.—At the Halles Centrales, the immense pavilion which every morning used to present such an animated scene on the arrival of the railway fish trucks, is now devoted to the sale of "*la viande de cheval*," with, perhaps, an auction going on in one corner, at which a few *Sei* eels or gudgeons will fetch their weight in silver. In the meat pavilion, where one used formerly to pass in front of miles of sides of beef and legs of mutton, only some sheep's and bullock's lights, and a few bullock's heels will be seen exposed for sale; all the rest is *viande de cheval*. In the butter and cheese pavilions dripping and other kinds of melted fat as substitutes for butter for culinary purposes will be displayed, together with honey and saucissons à cheval—encore le cheval! toujours le cheval! Still it is not merely horse that Paris is prepared to devour. Only the other day, when all the boucheries hippophagiques, as they are elegantly termed, were closed, owing to a temporary scarcity of the *viande de cheval*, a purveyor of ass flesh, who was demanding the then high price of three francs per pound, had a crowd of between two and three hundred famished housewives collected around his shop eager to secure a scrap of the delicacy. All the animals of the Jardin d'Aclimatation and such of those from the Jardin des Plantes as have been pronounced by men of science—who do not stick at trifles when famine is impending—to be suitable for human food, have been already sent to the slaughter-houses, and by the time the siege is over I expect we shall have devoured almost all the varieties of the animal kingdom for which Noah found room in his Ark, as well as several cross-breeds unknown at that epoch. In the poultry pavilion at the Halles you will see perhaps three or four geese waddling up and down a long wooden bench, in front of which upwards of a hundred people will be struggling and bidding for them at the top of their voices; and it is not until something like 100*fr.* or 120*fr.* have been offered that the auctioneer will let his hammer fall. A couple of wild ducks fetch thirty-five francs the couple. The swans from the Eglisien-les-bains lakes and other ornamental waters in the neighbourhood of Paris, with all the outré varieties of the web-footed tribe conserved on the lakes of the Bois de Boulogne, have been submitted to public competition at the Halles Centrales, and found their way, with the ostriches of the Jardin des Plantes, to the tables of the wealthy, eccentric dishes being to-day the mode in Paris, which seeks to get all the amusement it can out of the famine with which it is threatened. Cats, which have lately been openly introduced into Parisian cuisines, promise ere long to compete in price with the rabbits, for which at the barrière gorgones they had long served as substitutes. The Halles have been tolerably well provided with vegetables since steps were taken to bring in the abandoned supplies in the extensive circuit around Paris under the fire of the forts; but fruit has long been scarce and exceedingly dear. Of one commodity, and that the most important of all, there seems to be no scarcity. In certain pavilions of the Halles, incessantly guarded by sentinels, you may see piled up almost level with the roof tens of thousands of sacks, tens of thousands of barrels of flour, which, moreover, are but a fraction of our almost unlimited supply.—*Letter in Pall Mall Gazette*, Nov. 23.

On Friday a meeting was held in Kensington to protest against threatened encroachments on Hyde Park.

UNFORTUNATE MISPRINT.—A poet who wrote in some tender lines addressed to his love, "We will hallow her grave with our tears," was surprised at a call from Henrietta's brother next morning, armed with a club, and who extended a stirring invitation to him to come down and have his head broken, which he declined. The local paper had made the line read, "We will harrow her grave with our tears."

A PLEASANT REMEDY FOR SEA SICKNESS.—There have been many suggestions made as to the prevention of sea-sickness, none of which have, to say the least, been found in practice to be completely successful. The introduction into practice of hydrate of chloral, which produces with certainty sleep for a definite number of hours, has suggested a means of escaping the horrors of a short-sea passage at least, and possibly of mitigating the most prolonged horrors of sea-sickness. To go to sleep at Dover, and to wake and find oneself at Calais, is a plan which, failing other expedients, has in it much promise. An ordinary dose of hydrate of chloral produces sleep usually in a quarter of an hour, and with almost unfailing certainty. Some cases just published by Dr. Doring, of Vienna, seem to show that the value of hydrate of chloral to obviate sea-sickness is very great. It produces quiet and prolonged sleep. In all the instances recorded it seems to have been of great value, even during prolonged sea voyages, giving a good night's rest, arresting violent sickness when it had set in, and stopping the tendency to its recurrence.—*British Medical Journal*.

Literature.

THE MIRACLES OF OUR LORD.*

It is not only exhilarating to come in contact with such fresh views of Scripture as we receive from Mr. MacDonald—it is blissful. The former phrase carries something of mere sensible relief with it; but Mr. MacDonald only touches the sensuous through the spiritual. He does not give us flashes of light here and there where our supposed individual difficulties may lie, relieving the intellect and imparting the joy which may be supposed to attend on the discovery of any new truth—even a truth of natural science—he rather diffuses an atmosphere in which all things seem more lovely, albeit, it may appear to the over-logical mind, somewhat softer and dimmer in outline.

Mr. MacDonald does not argue in the sense of seeking mere logical assent; he appeals to the spiritual instinct. And the method of his appeal is that of the poet, wrapt in the absorbing sweetness of spiritual contemplation. The most uncritical reader can see how thoroughly the lyrical spirit permeates all these discourses. At the central conception of each of them there is a hymn, if we may put it so; and in these days of over-strained intellectual activity, when, at the same time, an imperative need is felt for more human and intimate readings of Scripture mysteries, Mr. MacDonald's manner of teaching is most effective. He could have sung instead of discoursing; indeed, had he wound up each discourse with a hymn, it would have given a sense of completeness; but the times are critical, and a mind like his must submit so far to circumstances if it would be influential. Influential, in the best sense, we believe it has been with respect to the miracles of our Lord. No doubt many weak and doubting souls, who in midst of the whirl and crash of sceptical inquiry, had almost turned their backs on common things to cling to the cross for their very soul's life, have by them been enabled to retire, and, putting the hand to daily work with new impulses, have seen both common things and the cross of Christ transfigured with a yet brighter halo. In these times of scientific scepticism and growing materialism, there is scarce a man who has a clearer mission than Mr. MacDonald in such work as this. In spite of minor faults here and there, this work deserves a most grateful welcome from all classes. From the more orthodox as well as from the more liberal sections of the Christian Church; for whatever minor differences may exist among Christians themselves, these should be so far passed out of view, when an artist and a literary man comes forward to defend from the human-spiritual ground, the most central positions of Christianity against the scepticism and science, which threaten to gain prevalence.

Naturally enough, Mr. MacDonald starts with deprecating the idea of any belief in miracles apart from a belief in Jesus. The kernel of the whole matter is that no intelligent theory of Christ can be framed without admitting his divinity. Miracles were merely the express forth-putting of the Father's manifestation in Him—

"What in the hands of the Father are the mighty motions and progresses and conquests of life, in the hands of the Son are miracles. I do not myself believe that He valued the working of these miracles as He valued the utterance of the truth in words; but all that He did had the one root, obedience, in which alone can any son be free. And what is the highest obedience? Simply a following of the Father—a doing of what the Father does. Every true father wills that his child should be as he is in his deepest love, in his highest hope. All that Jesus does is of the Father."

And therefore as in all manifestations of life—natural and spiritual alike—there are more apparent and more inward meanings, more superficial and deeper lessons, so with regard to the miracles of our Lord.

"There are some, I think, who would perhaps find it more possible to accept the New Testament story, if the miracles did not stand in the way. But, perhaps, again it would be easier for them to accept both if they could once look into the true heart of these miracles. So long as they regard only the surface of them, they will, most likely, see in them only a violation of the laws of nature: when they behold the heart of them, they will recognise there at least a possible fulfilment of her deepest laws."

In this spirit all the miracles are dealt with. The fundamental idea is that love and not power is that which creates and reveals. Therefore says Mr. MacDonald with reference to the turning of the water into wine:—

"That the wine should be His first miracle, and that the feeding of the multitudes should be the only other creative miracle, will also suggest many thoughts in connection with the symbol He has left us of His relation with His brethren. In the wine and the bread of the Eucharist He reminds us how utterly He has given, is giving Himself for the gladness and the strength of

His Father's children. Yea, more; for in that He is the radiation of the Father's glory, this bread and wine is the symbol of how utterly the Father gives Himself to His children, and how earnestly He would have them partakers of His own being. If Jesus was the Son of the Father, is it hard to believe that He should give men bread and wine?"

"It was not His power, however, but His glory, that Jesus showed forth in the miracle. His power could not be hidden; but it was a poor thing beside His glory. Yea, power in itself is a poor thing. If it could stand alone, which it cannot, it would be a horror. No amount of lonely power could create. It is the love that is at the root of power, the power of power, which alone can create."

Life is the law of things; pain and sickness and death are only realities to the sensuous experience; and are included in the wider sweep of God's Providential purpose, revealing to the spiritual eye proofs of deeper, overruling laws of nature. This is the interpretation of the miracles of healing; they were testimonies to the existence of these deeper laws. Some of the thoughts in the discourse on the cure of Simon's wife's mother are extremely beautiful. This is very characteristic of Mr. MacDonald:—

"There is no sign of those whom our Lord cures desiring to retain the privileges of the 'invalid. The joy of health is labour. He who is restored must be fellow-worker with God. This woman, lifted out of the whelming sand of the fever and set upon her feet, hastens to her ministrations. She has been used to hard work. It is all right now; she must to it again."

This, too, is worth quoting in the same light:—

"In these miracles of healing our Lord must have laid one of the largest foundation-stones of His Church. The healed knew Him henceforth, not by comprehension, but with their whole being. Their very life acknowledged him. They returned to their homes to recall and love afresh. I wonder what their talk about Him was like. What an insight it would give into our common nature to know how these men and women thought and spoke concerning Him! But the time soon arrived when they had to be public martyrs,—that is, witnesses to what they knew, come of it what might. After our Lord's departure came the necessity for those who loved Him to gather together, thus bearing their testimony at once. Next to His immediate disciples, those whom He had cured must have been the very heart of the young Church. Imagine the living strength of such a heart—personal love to the personal helper the very core of it."

For the humanity that rises out of what we are in some danger of regarding as merely instrumental and half-unmeaning, what could be finer than this?—

"Jesus saw the man [who was born blind], the disciples asked their question, and he had no sooner answered it, than 'he spat on the ground, made clay of the spittle, and anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.'—Why this mediating clay? Why the spittle and the touch? Because the man who could not see him must yet be brought into sensible contact with him—must know that the healing came from the man who touched him. Our Lord took pains because the man was blind. And for the man's share in the miracle, having blinded him a second time, as it were, with the clay, he sends him to the pool to wash it away: clay and blindness should depart together by the act of the man's faith."

In spite of the tendency to a certain phase of mysticism, Mr. MacDonald has no leaning to the asceticism which identifies itself with certain other forms of mysticism.

"That touch of Christ's was more than the healing. It was to the leper what the word daughter was to the woman in the crowd, what the neither do I was to the woman in the temple—the sign of the perfect presence. Outer and inner are one with him; the outermost sign is the revelation of the innermost heart. Let me linger one moment upon this coming together of creative health and destroying disease. The health must flow forth; the disease could not enter; Jesus was not defiled by the touch. Not that, even if he would have been, he would have shrunk and refrained. He respected the human body in most evil cases, and thus he acknowledged it his own."

The subject would tempt one to go on making extracts and references, which we are sure our readers would enjoy; but we must stop. All we can do instead is to heartily recommend the book, assuring all that, in the reading, they cannot but receive spiritual elevation and recruitment; while yet the book is lightsome and healthy, and may be taken up in the brightest moods, as well as in the darkest—surely one of the highest things that can be said of a book.

It would be easy to point out loosenesses of logic, apparent contradictions, and sometimes doubtful exegesis. This were, however, but ungrateful labour. Mr. MacDonald's strength lies in the purity of his spiritual insight, the depth and tenderness of his perceptions of Divine truth, and the power he possesses, in virtue of his poetic gifts, of bringing it close to human needs. He is a poet, in the root of his genius Christian; and he is, therefore, a force in Christian life and conviction, because he never fails, where he influences at all, to draw individual lives nearer to Divine light and life. We have read these discourses with rejoicing—with humility mingled with joy, as having felt ourselves here rebuked for grudges, there for want of insight, in having failed to see in

Scripture-truth what looks conspicuously clear when set forth as Mr. MacDonald sets it forth to us.

IONA AND ST. COLUMBA.*

The Duke of Argyll has here presented us with what we are fain to name the most attractive of his works. Not that any of the former ones lack real interest. They are full of thought, most clearly and subtly expressed. But the strain is, perhaps, somewhat too close for the mass of readers; the break is seldom or never put on, so that you may leisurely view the freshness and greenery of the land through which you pass. The chapters on Birds and their Flight in "The Reign of Law," form, perhaps, the most pointed exception to this, proving his Grace's power of lightening up gray stretches of scientific reasoning by bands of colour and poetry. In "Iona" we have this power in still more commanding exercise, and the work, though it professes pretty much merely to describe scenes as ordinarily seen, and to give historical information, has yet a definite relation to his former productions.

An idea which evidently has taken firm hold on the Duke's mind is, that natural science is a vain and futile thing if it does not acknowledge man as its central object of interest, and have direct regard to his mental and spiritual being in the final effort after a knowledge of cause and law. His "Primeval Man" was a protest against this separation which science is too apt to assume. He urged that a recognition of the moral side of man's life was essential not only to understanding man's physical history during the long roll of prehistoric ages, but to any true science of nature itself. The very intellect which unbendingly contemplates and eagerly desires to sum up in one common principle the endlessly varying causes and appearances of nature, cannot "leap over its own shadow." It is its own centre point and for ever places itself in relation to facts only to assert their absolute disparity and disconnection and meaninglessness seen apart from conscience, or from a yet higher mind of which it is the reflection. "Iona" is the most popular application possible of the idea. His Grace begins by saying that "the Aspects of Nature will always be more generally attractive than the History of Man"—(a dictum which in some aspects we should doubt considering the pilgrimages which are made by thousands on thousands to many dreary weary flats—battle-fields of the world, however—such as Bannockburn and Waterloo). His Grace goes on to write:—

"It requires no previous knowledge, and no preparation of the memory or the imagination to be impressed by 'Fingal's Cave' [in Staffa]. I have heard well-travelled men declare that nothing they had seen in any part of the world had ever produced such an effect upon them. There are many larger caverns—there are many more lofty cliffs. But there is nothing anywhere like that great Hall of Columns standing round their ocean-floor, and sending forth in ceaseless reverberations the solemn music of its waves. This is a scene which appeals to every eye, which all can understand, and which none are likely to forget. With 'Iona' it is very different. Its interest lies altogether in human memories. The stranger must bring with him the knowledge and the reflection which can alone enable him to enjoy what is of real interest in the associations and in the appearance of the place. What he sees upon the Island will not help him much, and a great part of what has to be read about it, will help him less. The buildings which have risen and have decayed upon the ancient sites, and the controversies which have raged around them, belong one and all, to times far removed from that in which the fame of Iona arose. . . . It may well be, however, that different minds should find themselves attached by very different ties to the recollections of 'Iona,' and that there should be a corresponding difference in the form which their impressions take. Its history touches an immense variety of interests—the migration of Races—the Rise of Nations—the Conquests of Christianity—the development of Belief. Without venturing into very deep waters on any of these subjects, something perhaps may yet be said of interest to those who visit 'Iona,' and to some also, possibly, who will never see it."

Now, it is very noticeable that, while Iona is here set forth because of its scientific interests, the Duke should wholly look to science on the side of man—moral and spiritual. Staffa is the place most calculated to attract and interest a mere naturalist, crowds of whom flock towards it year by year; but Iona is yet the island which has most attraction for the philosophic mind, mainly because there the Celtic missionaries first touched on their glorious mission to convert the inhabitants of Scotland to Christianity nearly fourteen hundred years ago. Columba at that time landed in Iona; and so the Duke's "Iona" is a scientific statement of facts and thoughts with the good abbot for chief abiding figure. "Thirteen hundred years"! We utter the words as mere words without thought of what is implied in them.

"When we measure thirteen hundred years ago by

* The Miracles of our Lord. By GEORGE MACDONALD, LL.D. (Strahan and Co.)

* Iona. By the Duke of ARGYLL. (Strahan and Co.)

the changes they have wrought, the days of Columba's ministry will appear remote indeed. And this method of taking our stand at different points of past time, and turning our face alternately in opposite directions, is the only way of estimating correctly the depths into which we look. For the tracts of Time are foreshortened like the tracts of space. Very often, in a landscape, some difference, hardly perceptible, in the tints of blue is all that distinguishes between mountains which are really separated by the wide valleys and by gulfs of sea. In like manner we forget the long intervals of unmemorable time that have elapsed between events which we look at across the spaces of more than a thousand years. And then, as the sunlight falls very unequally on different parts of a wide horizon, so does the light of History fall very unequally on different epochs of the past. On the sayings and doings of some men, who are nevertheless among the Fathers of Mankind, it shines so brightly that we hear them speak as if they were speaking at our side; whilst there are many periods, some of them containing many centuries, which are much closer to us, but which lie, as it were, in hollows. We look across them. Columba's age is one of these."

After speaking of the monastic rule, and of the atmosphere of miracle which seemed to invest Columba while he lived, the Duke goes on to say:—

"Who can measure the power of minds endowed with extraordinary gifts? And who can say how extraordinary these gifts may not sometimes be? Over and over again in the history of the world, they have achieved apparent impossibilities, and have seemed as if yoking to their service the whole natural course and current of events. Many of the stories of Adamnan turn upon the possession by Columba of the gift of prophecy. There is nothing impossible in this."

This is the account of one of his prophecies:—

"On the last day of his life [which, by the way, had been foretold and deferred because of the prayers of other churches], Columba, being now very infirm, ascended a little hill (Monticellulum), which overlooked the Monastery; and here, standing for a short time upon the top, and lifting up both his hands, he blessed his now long-adopted home, and he pronounced this prophecy of its fame:—'Unto this place, albeit so small and poor, great homage shall yet be paid, not only by kings and people of the Scots, but by the rulers of barbarous and distant nations, with their people also. In great veneration, too, shall it be held by the holy men of other churches.'"

The Duke points out the unique character of the conversion of the Northern nations.

"Converts are made here and there in our own time. But nowhere now—nowhere during a long course of centuries—have we seen whole nations accepting the Christian faith and casting their idols to the moles and to the bats. What were the disposing causes which led to this great movement among the Gothic and Celtic tribes? What was the condition of their own belief? What were to them the attractive elements in the new religion? What were the arguments addressed to them by Columba? Could he quote to them as Paul did at Athens to the Greeks some things which 'even their own poets had said'? It is really afflicting that Adamnan gives us no ray of light on those questions, so interesting and so profoundly dark. [But, at all events] Christianity was not presented to them in alliance with the impressive aspects of Roman civilisation. The tramp of Roman legions had never been heard in the Highland glens, nor had their clans ever seen with awe the majesty and the power of Roman Government. . . . All the more must we readily believe that the man who, at such a time, planted Christianity successfully among them, must have been a man of powerful character and of splendid gifts. There is no arguing against that great monument to Columba, which consists in the place he has secured in the memory of mankind. . . . We find in Columba's life, not only the firm foothold of history, but the vivid portraiture of an individual man."

And the natural setting of the portrait is fixed and unchanging over that of most.

"We may be sure that what we now see is very much what Columba saw. Its distinctive features depend upon the enduring hills, and upon the still more enduring Sea. To the eye of a geologist, indeed, I know very few situations where every outline tells so distinctly of the most tremendous agencies of change—of volcanic heat and of glacial cold, of upheaval and of subsidence, of rupture and of abrasion, and of the waste of time. But all these agencies, except the last, have been so long at rest, that the human race has been slow to believe in their existence. It is, indeed, the most difficult of things to form any distinct conception of the nature and the method of their works, or of the part which each of them has had in moulding and configuring the world we see. . . . The ocean has been called by Hugh Miller, 'that blue foaming dragon, whose vocation it is to eat up the land'; but the rate at which it eats up the Hebridean rocks is very slow indeed. The singular and beautiful clearness of its waters round these shores is a sufficient proof how infinitesimally small is the amount of spoil. A few changes, of a very superficial kind, may have been brought about. Forests can never have flourished upon these outward slopes which front the Atlantic blasts. But some shaggy brushwood has doubtless disappeared; the introduction of sheep has made the pastures greener: to some extent the heather has given way to grass. But this is the whole amount of change. All the great aspects of Nature upon and around Iona must be the same as they were 1,800 years ago."

This is a picture of "Iona's" general appearance:—

"In approaching 'Iona' along the south coast of Mull, we see the massive hills of igneous rocks which constitute the great bulk of that large island, subsiding somewhat suddenly into a long promontory of comparatively low elevation, at first with sharp and broken outlines, due to mica slate, and then with rounded knobs and knolls of granite, swept naked by the blast along the margin of the sea, but further inland covered with sheets of moss and heather. Off the point of this long promontory, called the Ross, and separated from it by a Sound of shallow sea about one mile broad, lies Columba's Isle."

Columba's life is that which from every point

of view imparts interest to "Iona"; and it is inseparable from it. The Duke's keen eye for the human interest makes his work every way attractive. There is something more than mere scientific commonplace in these words with which he closes the book.

"There is visible demonstration that even the most enduring forms of nature round us are of very recent date, and that it is only in comparison with the span like shortness of human life that we can speak of the 'Everlasting Hills.' But how these hills were raised, and their shapes determined, and the valleys formed, and the broken remains of older lands scattered among the waves—these are questions on which we can only speculate, and speculate perhaps in vain. . . . If the mere bigness, or the mere age of things, were the measure of interest attaching to them, then the arrival of the granite boulder on its floe of ice was a far more important event than the arrival of Columba in his boat of hides. The boulder still lies where it lay for thousands of years before his time. Columba's body has been resolved into undistinguished dust. But what he did and said has acquired a permanent place in the history of that being for whom the Sea has been made and the dry land 'prepared.' The years cannot be counted which elapsed between the deposit of the Laurentian Gneiss, and the close of the Glacial Epoch. Certain it is that, compared with them, all the years of man's history are few indeed. Yet half the years of a single human life have conferred upon 'Iona' its imperishable fame."

A fitting conclusion surely in the light of what we fancy is the real scope and aim of the work in its connection with His Grace's former books.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Light and Truth: or, Bible Thoughts and Themes—the Lesser Epistles. By HORATIUS BONAR, D.D. (James Nisbet and Sons.) Dr. Bonar's volume is thoughtful, devout, practical and Evangelical in spirit as well as in doctrine. It is composed of what are really a number of sermonettes on passages taken from that portion of the New Testament between the Epistle to the Galatians and that of Jude, both inclusive. The mode of treatment is of what would now be called the old school, but it is a very excellent example of that school, and the clearness, the simplicity, the arrangement will make these discourses acceptable to a considerable class.

Seven Eventful Years in Paraguay. By GEORGE FREDERICK MASTERMAN. Second Edition. (Sampson Low, Son and Marston.) Mr. Masterman was a resident in Paraguay, during the most eventful part of the rule of Lopez, mingled a good deal with the people, and was familiar with all the movements of the fierce struggle with which they had to wage. His work is most instructive and valuable as the faithful record of one who knew how to observe, and how to make the best use of his observation.

The Peerage of Poverty; or Learners Working in Fields, Farms, and Factories. By EDWIN PAXTON HOOD. Fifth edition. (S. W. Partridge and Co.) A book in a fifth edition needs no commendation. That Mr. Hood's book should have attained this honour does not surprise us. Full of original and racy observation, rich in anecdote and illustration, with noble sentiment expressed in eloquent and glowing language, it could hardly fail to be attractive. The idea is a happy one, and there are few who could have worked it so successfully as Mr. Hood has done here. He is not one of the mere talkers about labour but a hard-worker himself, and one who has deep sympathies with the sons of toil everywhere. How much they have served the world by intellect as well as by hand, how many of those who have earned exalted positions in the republic of letters have risen from the humblest rank and forced their way upward by sheer hard work, he tells us in this volume of a new and noble heraldry. The book may afford subject of useful reflection for all, but, to young men in particular, it should act as a stimulus and a help.

Life of Madame de la Motte Guyon. By Rev. T. C. UPHAM. (New edition revised by an English Clergyman.) This is a new edition of an old and well-known book, but one which is sure long to preserve its popularity and which well deserved to be reproduced in this elegant and yet not expensive form. Madame de la Motte Guyon was one of the purest and noblest spirits ever trained within the Church of Rome, but though in that Church she could not be said of it. The character of her piety, indeed, was to some extent moulded by its teachings, but in its simple faith, in the intensity of its spiritual love, in its elevation above the influences of the superstition by which she was surrounded, in its practical purpose and consecration of time and labour to the true service of Christ, it was in the best sense essentially "Catholic." In common with her distinguished friend, Fenelon, and a few others, she serves to show, as the editor of her life says, that "great light may exist in great darkness, and great love in an atmosphere of internal chilliness. Louis XIV. and his abettors, Popes and Bishops, were more right in discerning the tendencies of such views than those who held them." So we always feel in reading the deeply touching records of her testimony and her sufferings. We admire her boldness, we honour her constancy, we sympathise with her in her long tribulation; but we feel that her enemies were right in their belief that her love of freedom and truth was incompatible with loyalty to Rome. Her true home would

have been in a Protestant Church, but she had not advanced so far in her views as to be prepared for so decisive a step. She is, therefore, all the more to be commended for the decision and firmness with which she held fast to the position which she believed she ought to maintain. To all who love the record of true spiritual feelings, and are stirred by the simple story of a beautiful and holy life, rich in experiences which if deeply tinged with mysticism are very elevated and elevating in their tone, such a book must always be welcome.

The Gas Meter Life Book is a singular title, and the book which answers to it is a singular book, or at least would be thought so by many of our readers, but we are not without warrant in saying that those of them who may be connected with gas companies will find it very useful. It is an account-book intended to register in a compact form the service of each meter in the possession of the gas company. The ruling of one sheet shows the method of the book, and this specimen sheet is to be obtained for three shillings and sixpence on application to Mr. Keys, 26, Bridge-row, Cannon-street, E.C.

GIFT BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

Notwithstanding the hardness of the times, the publishers continue to cater for our young friends, with full confidence no doubt that, whatever the course of public events, the younger members of British families will not be denied their Christmas presents. We can only bestow a word or two on the many gay volumes that now lie before us. *The Brownies and other Tales*, by Mrs. EWING, Author of "Mrs. Over-the-way's Remembrances" (Bell and Daldy). For he girls Mrs. Ewing writes more pleasantly and wisely than anyone we know of, excepting only her mother, Mrs. Gatty. These tales, reprinted from *Aunt Judy*, are full of life and humour. If Mrs. Ewing has to create a fairy or a brownie, it shall have some good work to do, and work of a kind to be emulated by boys and girls. Her domestic sketches too are bubbling with frolic and good nature. Her little protégés can even condescend occasionally to mischief, of course, repenting it sincerely afterwards. These half-dozen stories are, to our mind, perfect samples of what Christmas stories, to be read around the hearth, should be, for intelligent, sprightly children. A rare domestic treat will such a reading in many a household be. We must not forget to add that there are four or five capital engravings in the book. Mr. Davenport Adams is always welcome. In *Lighthouses and Lightships* (Nelson and Sons) he deals with a subject of unending interest to the young. Beginning with the shores of Alexandria, he gives an account of the most celebrated lighthouses, ancient and modern, down to the Eddystone, together with a selection of the exciting stories associated with them. Mr. Adams tells how they were constructed, of the improvements from time to time introduced in the lighthouse system—which, we may remark, are very completely explained—and of the kind of life led by their adventurous keepers. The work is enhanced in value by a number of illustrations, from photographs, unpublished sketches, and other authentic originals. The same author, in *Men at the Helm* (Gall and Inglis, Edinburgh) gives lively sketches of great English statesmen, including Hampden, Clarendon, Walpole, Chatham, Pitt, Castlereagh, Canning, Peel, and Aberdeen. The sketches are written in a genial spirit, and without party bias, the intention being to furnish the youthful student "with a more comprehensive summary of the careers and policy of our most distinguished statesmen than common school histories afford, and to supply a companion, as it were, and a sequel to those elementary works." It is also well adapted as a book of reference to more advanced readers, who will find assistance in a comprehensive index. A coloured frontispiece plate and several illustrations, together with a gay binding, add to the attractiveness of this excellent compilation. *Stories about Boys* (Nimmo, Edinburgh) is a collection of tales contributed by Mr. A. R. Hope to various periodicals, which relate chiefly to school-day experiences. They are of very unequal merit, though, as the author says, "not more uninteresting than at least half of the stories written for the rising generation." *Stories for Young People* (Barnes and Sons, Paternoster-row) are a number of short tales of juveniles chiefly in humble life, which "point a moral," from the pen of Mrs. F. Marshall Wood. The chief of them are "The Vagabond" and "The Little Bluecoat Boy," which are records of trials, sufferings, and faith. The book contains many illustrations, and is got up in the usual Christmas style. *Drifting and Steering*, by Lynde Palmer (Oliphant and Co., Edinburgh) is a boy's story, intended to contrast two lives—"the one governed by principles of the strictest honour, the other oscillating with impulses of selfishness and dishonesty." It is a somewhat sombre and formal tale for Christmas reading, and is written with a lack of ease and skill. *The Magic Shoes, and other Stories*, by Chauncey Giles (Oliphant and Co.) aims to convey to young persons some useful practical truths of a religious tendency in a pleasing and interesting form. *The Childhood of Mary Leeson* (Gall and Inglis, Edinburgh). This little story, written by Mary Howitt some years ago, has been revised and recast. Its object is to illustrate the superiority of a mild educational

training to that of severity, and to illustrate both principles in the narrative form. The same publishers have issued a new series of the popular sixpenny *Nursery Toy Books*, which contain "Hop o' my Thumb" and "Blue Beard." Amongst the Christmas books for the young published by Messrs. Griffith and Farran, besides those already noticed in our columns, are *The Triumph of Steam*; or, *Stories from the Lives of Watt, Arkwright, and Stephenson*, and *Sunny Days: a Month in the Great Stowe*. We are not surprised that *The Triumph of Steam* has reached a third edition. The interest of the young in Watt, Arkwright, Davy, and the Stephensons is perennial. The authoress has made good use of her materials, and quite one-half of the book is absorbed by well-told stories of the Stephensons, father and son, part being drawn from Mr. Smiles's popular "Life"—the cream is skimmed off—and part from the recollections of friends. The volume is embellished with several illustrations by Gilbert. In *Sunny Days* is the record of a month's visit of a family from town to a picturesque farm house for the benefit of its juvenile branches, under the auspices of Aunt Gomie. Great Stowe is, we suppose, in the west of England, and one of the little girls tells the story of the outing in her own lively fashion—her simple narrative informing the reader of the domestic animals, the object of interest in the vicinity, and the little adventures of herself and juvenile friends. The book will interest both boys and girls, and contains a number of illustrations by Walter Crane. By mistake three of the books for the young noticed in our last number—*Tales of the Saracens*, *History of the Robins*, and *Odd Stories of Animals*—were set down to another firm instead of to Messrs. Griffith and Farran.

Tender Herbs: or, Lessons for the Lambs. By G. W. CONDER. (Manchester: Tubbs and Brook. London: W. Kent and Co.) A short series of sermons for children, which has already come under our notice in the shape of separate tracts, reappears in a collected form, and deserves a most hearty welcome. These sermons were actually preached by Mr. Conder to the children of his congregation, to whom he has devoted, for some time past, one Sunday morning in each month. That the children so favoured enjoyed a rich repast there can be little doubt, but more than this, we venture to assert that young men and maidens, and their elders also, could listen with pleasure and profit to such discourses. Each chapter conveys some truth of vital moment. Now, the theme is the setting out and keeping in the right way, another time it is giving heed to conscience, again the power of prayer, and so on, and in each instance the lesson is brought home with a wonderfully convincing and convicting power by the preacher's concentration of argument, illustration, and Scriptural exposition upon the one point under consideration. As a model for those who address Sunday-schools we could not name its equal.

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

Spanish Pictures drawn with Pen and Pencil. (Religious Tract Society.) Spain is now largely occupying the thought and enlisting the sympathies of Protestant Christendom. She is beginning to reap the harvest which was sown in blood, so long ago, that it had almost appeared as if martyrdom in this instance was to fail of its reward—at any rate in this life and in the triumphs of the Gospel. But there are many signs of an approaching and widely extended awakening. The Religious Tract Society have done well to contribute these "Spanish Pictures" to the literature of the season. Most publishers of note consider themselves bound during these later weeks of the year to secure the prevalence of creamy tints of paper, a smooth surface, gay binding, rich illustrations, and other embellishments, and we are far from quarrelling with the Religious Tract Society for yielding to the fashion, aiming at the same time to instruct as well as to please. The writer of these chapters seems to have gathered what history he utilises from authentic sources, and he has had the advantage of a personal tour through the country, and has scanned the features both of the land and of its inhabitants with a very observant eye. Not only does he appreciate, and what is much more difficult, fairly and graphically describe, the natural scenery and varying aspects of the country through which he passes, he also reports as to the commercial relations of its more important towns, the manners and principal characteristics of the inhabitants, their occupations and their amusements, &c. Now and again, as opportunity offers, a chapter of history is interwoven with the narrative of travel. There is, we need hardly say, a chapter upon the Inquisition, prepared, however, with unusual care. The pictures in this book are very numerous and of a superior order. Many of them are of full-page size; among these are some excellent representations of Spanish scenery and architecture. Several of Doré's characteristic drawings are among the number. The book is altogether one of unusual merit, and will readily commend itself to those who desire to see the useful as well as the ornamental in the gift-books of the season.

Picture Gallery of the Nations (Religious Tract Society) has a somewhat similar character and design to the "Spanish Pictures." It is, however, as it need be, considering the largeness of its subject, more sketchy than instructive. All the nations of the earth are here briefly illustrated by pen and pencil. A few words as

to geographical position, population, religion, commerce, &c., combined with very fair engravings representing the people described, constitute the principal features of the book. As a companion to the atlas and the more systematic manual of geography it may prove very useful, affording just those glimpses of foreign scenes and costumes which, when so realised, give a zest to the study of geographical and ethnological science.

Holiday Pleasures, with twelve etchings by Rudolf Geissler (Seeley, Jackson and Co.), belongs to a class of works which Messrs. Seeley and Co. have made peculiarly their own during the last few years. The drawings of Geissler, Frolich, Pletzsch, and other German artists, are very successful in delineating the characteristic attitudes and amusements of children. But these etchings are done with more than usual fullness of detail. The "holiday pleasures" here recounted are experienced in England, but the scenes are unmistakably continental. And they are so excellent in every line that one almost forgets the book was intended for the nursery, as he turns rapidly over the letter-press to look at the next picture. The book is what we should call a nursery book for the drawing-room. Children have their visitors at this season; here is a treasure which they can take into a snug corner, and handle daintily with clean and careful hands.

THE OPIUM TRAFFIC IN CHINA.

BY THE REV. GRIFFITH JOHN, OF HANKOW.
II.

This is not the time to enumerate the unspeakable benefits which have resulted to China, and to the world at large, from the unjust war already described. God in His inscrutable providence has made it subservient to the highest interests of humanity; and both the Chinese and the outer nations have been reaping a rich harvest in consequence. A war was necessary—nay, indispensable—and this war, though indefensible in itself, accomplished a great and essential work. We cannot, however, but mourn one of its most signal results, viz., the rapid growth of the illicit traffic in opium. The Chinese were thoroughly cowed; and, looking upon the war as having its origin in this nefarious trade, they were unwilling to have anything more to say to it. The laws against it were still on the statute-book, but they feared to disturb them. No edicts were issued, as in former times, denouncing the sale, purchase, or use of the drug under the penalty of death; and no attempts were made to seize the contraband article and suppress the trade. The opium schooners, plying up and down the coasts, soon became numerous; and the receiving ships anchored with impunity in the immediate vicinity of each of the treaty ports. The principal dealers were first-class merchants. It must have appeared to the Chinese that the trade was really under the protection of Great Britain, that the British Government had no desire to see the traffic diminished, and that any serious attempt to suppress it would only involve them in difficulties, if not direful calamities. This will account for the barefacedness and impunity with which the trade was carried on after the Opium War; and, as will be seen by the following statement, for the marked increase in the annual shipments from India:—

Year	1840	Chests	34,631
"	1846	"	40,250
"	1848	"	53,075
"	1851	"	59,600
"	1852	"	66,574
"	1854	"	78,354

We need not proceed with these figures, as the trade seems to have been arrested in its expansive course in 1855, and as the subsequent advance has been comparatively insignificant. Even as late as 1866, the importation reached only 81,760 chests, and since then it has been falling off. In the last twelve years the average import has not exceeded 67,000 chests. The Chinese are not indebted to the British Government for this check. Since the war, there has been nothing in the conduct of England, in respect to the traffic, to place her in a more favourable light in the eyes of the Chinese and mankind at large. When the Government of India was transferred to the British Crown, in 1858, the British Government became producer and dealer in opium, as the Company had been. A more anomalous and degrading position it is impossible to conceive. In the same year the Chinese Government was induced, by H.B.M.'s Ambassador, to legalise the traffic. It has been asserted that the Chinese were compelled to take this step. That they were compelled by the force of circumstances must be admitted; but that they were compelled in the sense in which this is generally affirmed must be denied. There is not a particle of evidence to show that the logic of victorious arms was brought to bear upon the question. The correspondence which passed between Mr. Reid, the American

Minister, and Lord Elgin, is quite conclusive on this point. Mr. Reid arrived in China strongly biased against the opium trade; but, witnessing the abuses to which its contraband character gave rise, and seeing the hopelessness of any attempt to put a stop to its growth in India, he became an earnest advocate of its legalisation. "I am confident," says Mr. Reid, writing to Lord Elgin, "unless the initiative is taken by your Excellency, things must continue to go on as they are, with all their shame; and I appeal to your Excellency's high sense of duty, so often and so strongly expressed to this helpless though perverse people, whether we, the representatives of Western Christian nations, ought to consider our work done without some attempt to induce or compel an adjustment of the pernicious difficulty. In such an attempt I shall cordially unite." After alluding to the possibility of putting a stop to the growth of opium in India, Mr. Reid goes on to say:—"Of effective prohibition, and this mainly through the inveterate appetite of the Chinese, I am not sanguine; and I, therefore, more confidently, though not more earnestly, call your Excellency's attention to the only other course open to us—attempt to persuade the Chinese to put such high duties on the drug as will restrain the supply, regulate the import, and yet not stimulate some other form of smuggling, with or without the connivance of the Chinese." In reply to this communication Lord Elgin states:—"I so cordially assent to the views expressed by your Excellency in reference to the opium trade, that I don't think it necessary to dwell on this point of your letter. I would only venture to observe, on this head, that when I resolved not to press this matter on the attention of the Chinese commissioners at Tientsin, I did so, not because I question the advantages that would accrue from the legalisation of the traffic, but because I could not reconcile it to my sense of right to urge the Imperial Government to abandon its traditional policy in this respect under the kind of pressure which we were bringing to bear upon it at Tientsin." In the Senate documents of the United States, Vol. 10, 1859-60, Mr. Reid makes the following statement:—"The result has been that, in the British tariff, the Chinese have, of their own accord, agreed to make opium dutiable, or rather to transfer its duties from the local to the Imperial treasury. Such is the solution of this chronic difficulty which Lord Elgin has been able to effect. I have no reason to think that a *ny compulsion* was exercised or hinted. He has expressly disavowed it." This testimony must be deemed conclusive on the matter of compulsion.

Though the circumstances themselves must be regarded in the light of a pressure, it is clear that the Chinese were not told that they must legalise the traffic or fight. But everything short of this was done; and they must have felt that they were driven to take a step which was emphatically condemned by the moral sense of the nation, and directly opposed to the traditional policy of the country. The action of the British Government cannot be defended on any principle of justice. This Pagan Government had confessed its inability to curb the venality of its officers, and to put an end to the consumption of the poisonous article; and, being too weak to dictate terms to England, had implored her to cease to grow and import the drug. "Don't put the temptation before our people, for they are too weak to resist it." This was their cry, and it ought to have gone to the very heart of Christian England. The British Government, however, was perfectly deaf to this wail of helpless distress! It became a producer itself; and the Chinese were made to understand distinctly that opium would be grown still, and imported in the future as in the past, and that there was no middle ground for them between legalising the trade or submitting to all the abuses and horrors of smuggling. "It was represented to the commissioners that many abuses connected with the traffic in opium would be obviated if the drug, which was already practically legalised by the surreptitious levy of a duty upon it by officers of the Government, was placed upon the footing of other imports. The commissioners concurred in this opinion, and opium was inserted in the tariff as liable to a duty of thirty taels per chest." There was nothing new to the Chinese in the arguments brought to bear upon them by Lord Elgin. *Hu Nai-tai* had said all that could be said in favour of legalising the trade, and the question had been thoroughly sifted by the Chinese Government. Lord Elgin had no new light to throw upon it. But seeing that England was inflexibly determined to pursue her selfish policy with regard to the nefarious traffic, however distressful that policy might be to China, and being anxious to do away with the many political and commercial evils growing out of smuggling, the Chinese felt that they were left without an alternative but to legalise the trade. They yielded, how-

* See Dr. Medhurst's Tabular View.

ever, with a profound sense of helplessness and shame. The conscience of the nation was determinedly opposed to their action, and nothing but the circumstances in which they were placed could have appeased it. After the ignominious defeat which had just been sustained, the legalisation of the trade appeared to the nation as a measure forced upon the Emperor, and it was that view of the matter that made it endurable. It is, nevertheless, still regarded a disgrace to derive a revenue from the "sin and misery of the people"; and the legalisation of the opium trade will ever be looked upon as the foulest blot on the disastrous reign of the degenerate Hien-Fung, and one of the darkest of the many dark passages in the history of China.

But what have been the results of the legalisation of the trade in opium? From the above statement it would seem that India has not been greatly benefited by it. In this respect, the event has disappointed many. But though the importation of the foreign article has not increased materially, the consumption of the drug has been making rapid and gigantic strides within the last decade. We know that opium-smoking has been spreading on every hand, and this can be accounted for only on the supposition that the native product is gradually superseding the Indian. The fact is, the cultivation of the poppy is becoming general in the Northern, Western, and Central provinces; and the impetus which it has received of late is to be ascribed to the legalisation of the trade. Even before the opium war broke out, the poppy was grown to some extent in the Eastern and Southern provinces. As far back as 1830, a large portion of the province of Che-Kiang was devoted to its cultivation. Soon after this date, a check seems to have been put to its growth in those provinces, for subsequent memorials relating to their affairs are silent about it. In the Western provinces, when the attention of the Government was not so easily attracted to it, the plant found a safer and quieter home, and the growth in them has consequently been steadily increasing from the first. We know from a memorial presented to the throne, in 1836, that it was grown extensively in the province of Yun-nan at that date. The opium war gave a decided impetus to the native cultivation, but it is only since the legalisation of the trade that the poppy, like a noxious weed, has been running over the whole country. It is now grown in the provinces of Yun-Nan, Kwei-Chow, Si-Chwan, Kan-Suh, Shen-Si, Shan-Si, Hu-Peh, Hu-Nan, Kiang-Si, and even in Manchuria. The principal opium-producing provinces are Kan-Suh, Yun-Nan, Si-Chwan, and Kwei-Chow. In the months of April and May these provinces are white with the poppy flowers. The native article is very cheap in the provinces in which it is grown, and the consumption is very general among the labouring classes.

Whilst the foreign article in some parts of Si-Chwan is worth its weight in silver, the price of the native is only tenpence per Chinese ounce. A penny is sufficient to provide an ordinary smoker with enough for a day's consumption. There every one seems to indulge himself more or less in the pipe. It is a common thing even for those who are not confirmed smokers to go to the dens for an occasional whiff. The men and the women, the old and the young, seemed to me to be all playing with the insidious poison; and my impression was that it only required a few years more for opium-smoking to become as common as tobacco-smoking in Si-Chwan. I am within the mark when I say that seven out of every ten of the men, and three out of every ten of the women, of Si-Chwan are confirmed opium-smokers. I saw then what I had never heard of before. As we were drawing near the fairy Kung-tu—a city supposed by the Chinese to be on the confines of Hades, and the place through which all the disembodied spirits must pass on their way to that region—the boatmen told me that I should find an opium-eating god in the temple of the King of Hell, situated on a hill in the immediate vicinity. They spoke of him as a most powerful divinity, but excessively fond of opium. The people, they said, often propitiate him with the drug, and obtained wonderful deliverances in consequence. It was amusing to listen to the marvellous stories which had gathered around this "cock-footed god." In the afternoon I ascended the hill, and there actually found this celebrated opium-eater, with his mouth all besmeared with the drug. It seems that the people, in their difficulties and trials, go and visit the shrine of this divinity, and promise him a good quantity of opium if he will but bless them. When their prayers are answered, they return and pay their vows by daubing the lips of the poor god with the vile stuff. He is a black, frightful-looking devil. Most of the numerous priests in charge of the temple were opium-smokers; and this opium-eating

divinity is simply a creation of priestcraft. Still the fact plainly shows how the Si-Chwanites are beginning to look on the habit of opium-smoking. The two other great opium-producing provinces present an aspect similar to that of Si-Chwan. In the three, the majority of the adult population smoke, and the native article is used to the exclusion of the foreign. The native drug, though possessing neither the strength nor the flavour of the foreign, has, on account of its cheapness, entirely displaced its rival in those provinces, and is rapidly gaining ground everywhere in the interior. A very small quantity of foreign opium is smuggled into Si-Chwan by Canton men, for the special benefit of the most opulent, but the myriads of smokers in the provinces have not so much as seen it. But the native article is not confined to the opium-producing provinces; it is finding its way to the seaports, and even there the demand for it is increasing yearly. One reason is that it is less deleterious than the foreign drug, but the principal cause is its relative cheapness. The Si-Chwan opium, after paying all inland duties and exactions, costs at Shanghai only 70 per cent. of the price of Malwa before it has paid any taxes. In any part of the interior, after the foreign opium has paid taxes and transit dues, it costs less than the half.

Making every allowance for the inferiority in what is called the "touch" of the Chinese article as compared with the Indian, which makes the prepared extract of the latter more valuable than the former, it is evident that the disparity in price is so great that the native opium must eventually drive the foreign out of the market, that is, if a speedy stop is not put to its cultivation. Of this, however, there is but little ground for hope. Of course, memorials will be presented to the Emperor, and Imperial edicts will be issued from time to time; but they will be regarded by the executive authorities and the people at large as so much waste-paper. Though the cultivation is punishable with death, yet the poppy is grown everywhere in four provinces, duties are levied on it by the provincial authorities, establishments for the control of the trade are regularly licensed, and the opium dens are more numerous than the rice-shops in the cities and towns of the Empire. The farmers are urged forward by the love of gain; for, whilst the cultivation of the poppy does not require much labour, it is more profitable than that of beans, peas, wheat, or any other cereal with which it competes. It would seem, too, as if the Government, with the view of checking, at least, if not of putting an entire stop to, the importation of the foreign drug, had resolved to connive at the cultivation. The laws against it are retained on the statute-book, to be called into play whenever the favourable hour arrives; but, for the present, their infringement is to be winked at. The Chinese seem to have arrived at the conclusion that the foreign trade in the drug can be destroyed only by opposing to it the native, and to be cherishing the hope that they will be able to suppress the latter when the former is driven out of the field. If so, they are indulging in a soothing but vain dream. Ten or twenty years ago they might have suppressed the native cultivation, if the foreign importation had ceased; ten years hence it will be too late to attempt it. The vicious habit of smoking is spreading so rapidly, and the fatal spell of the drug is becoming so irresistible, that laws and penalties will be found utterly powerless to eradicate the vice. Though it is impossible to say how many confirmed opium-smokers there are in the country at present, we know that the number is very large. In 1855, Dr. Medhurst made certain calculations, and ventured an opinion that the number of those who smoked foreign opium, at that date, could not be less than two millions. Since then the number of opium-smokers has greatly increased; and we shall, I think, be within the mark, if we put the present number at five millions.

Miscellaneous.

Application is to be made to Parliament next session for power to make railways from the London and North-Western Railway at Euston-station, and the Midland Railway near the St. Pancras station, to the Charing-cross Railway-station. The *Railway News* understands that the directors of the Metropolitan District Railway Company have now obtained possession of the property required to complete the extension and station of this line at the junction of Cannon-street and Queen Victoria-street. The works will now be pushed forward as quickly as possible.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.—The second English Atlantic Cable is broken; and we now depend for telegraphic communication with America on the French cable. The cause of the accident can only be guessed at; but it is believed that the cable had been injured during the operations of the vessel sent out to fish up the cable previously injured.

THE SUEZ CANAL.—An authoritative contradiction is given to the report which appeared last week that negotiations were being carried on for the

turning of the French Suez Canal into an English joint-stock enterprise, with the Duke of Sutherland as chairman. A letter from the Duke to Mr. D. A. Lange says that as far as he is concerned the statement was a pure invention.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.—Messrs. Marcus Ward and Co., of Chandos-street, London, have brought out a variety of Christmas cards of a new style, which will, we doubt not, be highly popular. Some of them are in harmony with the idea of a religious festival, with illuminated texts, mottoes, sacred carols, and greetings, and exhibit a great deal of taste. Others are a little after the fashion of valentines, with groups of flowers, &c., only more sober. A series of outlines of comic mediæval scenes, bearing upon the season, are full in colours and gilt, of humour, and display much artistic skill.

THE RECENT RAILWAY COLLISION.—The inquest on the bodies of the persons who were killed in the late collision at Harrow was resumed on Friday. The Harrow signalman was further examined at some length. In reply to questions put by the jury, he stated that when the accident occurred he had been ten hours and a half on duty, and had not left his box all that time. His wages, he stated, were 19s. a week of seven days. The porter who was told to go back and lay down fog-signals to stop the express train, and the brakeman of the train of empty wagons, were also examined. The latter stated that when the trucks got loose he went back to the station and informed the policeman of what had occurred. He took no steps to carry out the rule which directs the guard or brakeman of a train which is stopped on its journey by an accident to immediately go back 1,200 yards with danger signals to stop any coming engine or train, because when the train broke he was under the orders of the station-master at Harrow. If the breakdown had occurred on the south side of the station instead of on the north he would have run back immediately and put down the proper signals. The inquiry was again adjourned.

A SHOCKING TRAGEDY.—A little motherless girl, fourteen years of age, Anne Elizabeth Connor, drowned herself in the canal at Mile-end about a month since, and her body having been found, Mr. Richards, the deputy-coroner, held an inquest upon it yesterday. The cause of the crime was clearly proved—her father's brutal treatment. This man (John Connor, lithographic printer, living at 14, Salisbury-street, Burdett-road, Bow) was not ashamed to say that for the last eight years he had frequently flogged his daughter. About a month ago he struck her on the arm with the leg of a chair, and he threw a loaf of bread at her head, because the landlady had told him that she had stolen apples. She then ran out of the house, and he never after saw her alive. He had threatened to break her back, but he had never scolded her. John Connor, aged eleven, brother of the deceased girl, said that his sister was severely beaten on the night she left home. About a fortnight before she was so frightened of her father that she said, "I will go and drown myself." Upon that night she left home, and she returned in three hours, when she said, "Johnny, I went to the canal to drown myself, and I put my hand in the water to feel if it was warm, and it was very, very cold, and I did not like to jump in, but it will do as well another night." Mary Anne Gamble, the landlady spoken of, said that the girl had never stolen apples. She was a very good girl. She was once so frightfully beaten by her father that the witness was "upset" and became ill for three weeks. The jury returned a verdict, "That the deceased drowned herself while in a fit of temporary insanity, brought on by the brutal beating of her father, and the jurors request the coroner to publicly censure him for his conduct." The father was then formally censured for his conduct. He rejoined, the reporter says, in language of a most revolting character.

Gleanings.

An immense number of pilchards, covering miles of sea, have been seen off St. Ives, Cornwall.

The relapsing fever is said to be largely on the increase in Glasgow. The authorities are about to construct a permanent fever hospital there.

Gustave Doré, who recently returned to France from London, has been missing for many weeks, and no information whatever can be obtained of his whereabouts.

Early in next year Messrs. William Blackwood and Sons will publish "The Autobiography of the late Lord Brougham and Vaux." The work, it is said, will be one of great interest.

A musician, in giving notice of an intended concert, thus expressed it:—"During the evening a number of songs may be expected, too tedious to mention."

In Kentucky a man was reputed to be dead. A newspaper published his obituary, giving both his good and bad qualities. The man, who was still in the land of the living, thereupon sued the editor for libel, laying his damages at 10,000 dollars.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

DEATHS.

MANN.—Nov. 20, at her residence, Sydenham, Elizabeth, relict of the late Thomas Mann, Esq., of the General Register Office, Somerset House, and formerly of Andover, Hants.

MUSCUTT.—Dec. 3, at 1, Church-road, De Beauvoir Town, Eleanor, the beloved wife of the Rev. Edward Muscutt, aged seventy-six years, after nearly twenty-seven years of painful suffering.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Nov. 30.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued £36,354,890 Government Debt £11,015,100
Other Securities .. 3,984,900 Gold Coin & Bullion 21,354,890
£36,354,890 £36,354,890

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,553,000 Government Securities (inc. dead weight annuity) £12,915,862
Reserve .. 8,061,737 Other Securities .. 16,048,925
Public Deposits .. 5,865,517 Notes .. 13,074,725
Other Deposits .. 18,393,125 Gold & Silver Coin 807,877
Seven Day and other Bills .. 934,010
£42,857,389 £42,857,389

Dec. 1, 1870.

GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Easy Digestion.—These admirable pills cannot be too highly appreciated for the wholesome power they exert over all disorders of the stomach, liver, bowels, and kidneys. They instantaneously relieve and steadily work out a thorough cure, and in its course dispel headache, biliousness, flatulence, and depression of spirits. It is wonderful to watch the daily improvement of the complexion as Holloway's pills purify the blood and restore plumpness to the face which had lost both flesh and colour. These pills combine every excellence desirable in a domestic remedy. The most certain and beneficial results flow from the occasional use of this regulating medicine, even persons in health, or when following sedentary occupation, will find it an invaluable aperient.

NOTICE.—KINAHAN'S LL. WHISKY DEPOT.—Kinahan and Co. have removed to their new and spacious premises, No. 64, Great Titchfield-street, Oxford-street, leading from Margaret street, Regent-street, and Market street, Oxford-street. Kinahan's LL. Whisky.—This famous and most delicious old mellow spirit is the very cream of Irish Whiskies, in quality unrivalled, perfectly pure, and more wholesome than the finest Cognac Brandy. Can be obtained all over the kingdom, in the well-known sealed and labelled bottles, or in bond for exportation at the London Docks. Wholesale Agents to Messrs. Bass, Guinness, and Younger, and Dealers in Foreign Wines and Spirits.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, Dec. 5.

The show of English wheat was small this morning, but arrivals from abroad are liberal. We had a slow trade, and English wheat was 1s. per qr. advance since this day week. The same decline was submitted to on foreign wheat, especially on American qualities. Sack flour was the turn dealer, and barrel made 6d. per qr. advance. Peas and beans were steady. Barley supported previous prices. Indian corn made 6d. per qr. advance. Of oats arrivals are liberal. Demand for export caused an advance of 1s. per qr. during the week, which improvement was supported this morning. At the ports of call cargoes are in good demand at an advance of 1s. per qr. for wheat, and 6d. for seed corn and barley since this day week.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent, red	— to —	— to —
Ditto new	50 58	— to —
White	— to —	— to —
.. new	55 58	— to —
Foreign red	51 54	— to —
.. white	53 57	— to —
BARLEY—		
English malting ..	31 34	— to —
Chevalier	36 42	— to —
Distilling	35 38	— to —
Foreign	34 36	— to —
MALT—		
Pale	— to —	— to —
Chevalier	— to —	— to —
Brown	49 54	— to —
BEANS—		
Flcks	38 41	— to —
Harrow	41 45	— to —
Small	— to —	— to —
Egyptian	38 40	— to —
PEAS—		
Grey	36 to 38	— to —
Maple	41 42	— to —
White	36 40	— to —
Boilers	36 40	— to —
Foreign, boilers ..	38 39	— to —
RYE	36 38	— to —
OATS—		
English feed	22 23	— to —
.. potato	27 34	— to —
Sootch feed	— to —	— to —
.. potato	— to —	— to —
Irish black	20 22	— to —
.. white	21 23	— to —
Foreign feed	20 24	— to —
FLOUR—		
Town made	45 47	— to —
Country Marks ..	38 40	— to —
Norfolk & Suffolk	36 37	— to —

BREAD, London, Saturday, Dec. 3.—The prices in the Metropolis are, for Wheat Bread, per 4lbs. loaf, 7½d. to 8d.; Household Bread, 6½d. to 7d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Dec. 5.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 8,503 head. In the corresponding week in 1869 we received 8,415; in 1868, 4,844; in 1867, 9,753; and in 1866, 10,782 head. A quiet feeling has pervaded the cattle trade to day; nevertheless, although prices have had a drooping tendency, no actual reduction has taken place. There has been a decided increase in the supply of beasts and the quality generally has been tolerably good. In all breeds sales have progressed slowly, but the best Scots and crosses have continued to make 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per 8lbs. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire we received about 1,800 shorthorns, &c.; from other parts of England about 265 of various breeds; from Scotland about 243 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, about 200 oxen, &c. There was a small show of sheep, and prime stock was scarce. The inquiry was very limited but rates were supported in consequence of the moderate number on sale. The top price for choice Down and half-breeds was 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8lbs. Calves and pigs met a quiet sale, on former terms.

For 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3 4 to 4 2		Prime Southdown	5 10 to 6 0	
Second quality	4 4 to 4 8		Lambs	0 0 to 0 0	
Prime large oxen	5 2 to 5 8		Lge. coarse calves	3 6 to 4 0	
Prime So. ts, &c.	5 8 to 5 10		Prime small	5 0 to 5 10	
Coarse inf. sheep	3 4 to 3 8		Large hogs	4 4 to 5 2	
Second quality	3 10 to 4 6		Neaten. porkers	5 6 to 6 2	
Pr. coarse woolled	4 10 to 5 6				

Suckling calves, 00s. to 00s., and quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 26s. each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, Dec. 5.—Our market has been moderately supplied with meat. Rather more animation has been noticed in the inquiry, at our quotations. The imports into London last week consisted of 1,008 packages from Hamburg, 43 Antwerp, and 6 Rotterdam.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Dec. 5.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 641 firkins butter, and 6,162 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 20,744 packages butter, and 1,381 bales bacon. We have nothing particular to notice respecting the butter market. Prices of foreign ruled about as this day week. Some really fine parcels of Irish brought advanced rates. Owing to large purchases of bacon for France, our market was very excited, and at the close of the week both Irish and Hamburg sold at an advance of 10s. per cwt. Lard in request at 2s. advance.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, Dec. 3.—We have nothing very encouraging to report, stocks being very heavy, and dealers generally buying short. An unusual quantity of English Pines is in the market, and some good examples from the Western Islands. There have been heavy consignments of good oranges from the same places, and Spain and Portugal. Amongst flowers we have Orchids, Chrysanthemums, Heaths, Cyclamens, and a few Primulas.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Dec. 5.—Considering the advanced period of the season, the demand for all choice and coloury qualities is strong, and prices remain firm. A moderate request prevails for low and medium grades, which are still plentiful, and show no improvement in value. No new feature is visible in our foreign market, which is still inactive for all but the best grades. Imports up to the present amount to 12,000 bales, against 42,315 bales corresponding period of last year. No change is reported in the New York market. Mid and East Kent, 1½, 1½, 3½, 10s. to 7½, 0s.; Wealds, 1½, 1½, 3½, 0s., 3½, 15s.; Sussex, 1½, 10s., 2½, 6s. to 3½, 10s.; Farnham and country, 3½, 15s., 4½, 15s., to 6½, 6s.; Olds, 1½, 0s., 1½, 15s., to 2½, 10s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, Dec. 5.—There markets have been moderately supplied with potatoes. The trade has been fairly active, at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 21 hampers 10 baskets Rotterdam, 3 bags Amsterdam, 4 sacks Harlingen, and 38 barrels from New York. English Regents, 6½, to 8½, per ton; Sootch Regents, 5½, to 8½, per ton; Rocks, 4½, to 5½, per ton.

SEED, Monday, Dec. 5.—Fine samples of English cloverseed were saleable, at the extreme prices of last week. Foreign red realised fully as much money. Choice qualities of white, being scarce, were held very high. Good trefoil, foreign as well as English, brought rather more money. Brown and white mustardseed were purchased slowly, at the quotations of last week. Canaryseed and hempseed were quite as dear. Foreign tares were offered on former terms, but the demand was limited.

WOOL, Monday, Dec. 5.—There has been an increase of firmness in the wool market. All descriptions, without being actually dearer, have been very firmly held; but, at the same time, business has not been on an extensive scale.

OIL, Monday, Dec. 5.—Lined oil has been in moderate request. Rape has been firm. Olive oil has changed hands slowly. Coconut has advanced on the week, owing to the rise in the value of tallow. Other oils have been steady in value, but the demand for them has not been active.

TALLOW, Monday, Dec. 5.—The market has been quiet. Y.C., on the spot, 4½, 4d. per cwt. Town Tallow, 3½, 3d. net cash.

COAL, Monday, Nov. 28.—Market heavy, at last day's rates. Elliot Walstead, 19s.; Hettons, 19s.; Haswell, 19s.; Hartlepool, original, 19s.; Heugh Hall, 18s. 3d.; Kelloe, 18s.; Kelloe South, 18s. 3d.; Kepier Grange, 17s. 6d.; Lambtons, 18s. 3d.; Eden Main, 17s. 6d.; Holywell Main, 17s.; Hartleys, 16s. 3d. Ships fresh arrived 108. Ships left from last day, 1. Total, 109. Ships at sea, 25.

Advertisements.

WANTED, a SCHOOL for a MINISTER'S DAUGHTER, where she can be received as PUPIL TEACHER for one year.—Address, stating full particulars, M. V., Post-office, Red Hill, Surrey.

A YOUNG MAN, a native of N. York-shire, DESIRES to meet with some LIGHT EMPLOYMENT of a confidential character in the S. of England. Unexceptionable reference.—Address, S, 17, Louisa-street, Bank Top, Darlington.

TO BE SOLD, an IRON CHURCH and LECTURE HALL, capable of holding 1,000 and 250 respectively.—Apply to Henry Rydon, Esq., Fyland House, Highbury New Park, N.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, Maitland-park, Haverstock-hill, N.W.

PATRONS.

Her Majesty the QUEEN.

Their Royal Highnesses the PRINCE and PRINCESS of WALES.

Instituted in May, 1758.

For children of both sexes and from any part of the kingdom. 2,016 orphans have been admitted. 148 are now in the Schools.

Candidates should be at once nominated. The charity requires nearly £200 weekly for its support. It depends upon voluntary contributions for three-fourths of its annual income, and at the present time is greatly straitened for want of means.

DONATIONS and NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS will be gratefully received by

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 73, Cheapside, E.C.

URGENT APPEAL.—The ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE for INFANTS. Hornsey-rose, is much distressed at the present time for want of means. There are 104 infants under care, and 12 waiting to be received. The Orphanage has ample accommodation for 200 at present, and is intended for 400. Contributions are very earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received.

JOSEPH SOUL, Hon. Sec.

Office, 73, Cheapside, E.C.

No salaries are paid but to the household.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 32, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

(Empowered by Special Act of Parliament)

DIRECTORS.

Robert J. Millar, Esq., Chairman.

Daniel Pratt, Esq., Vice-Chairman.

Benham, Augustus, Esq. Lewis, George C., Esq.
Bunnell, Peter, Esq. Runtz, John, Esq.
Burton, John R., Esq. Sanders, Joseph, Esq.
Groser, William, Esq. Starling, Robert B., Esq.
Howat, John B., Esq. Wills, Fred., jun., Esq.

SOLICITORS—Messrs. Watson and Sons.

PHYSICIAN—E. Headlam Greenhow, M.D., F.R.S.

SURGEON—John Mann, Esq.

ACTUARY and ACCOUNTANT—Josiah Martin, Esq., F.I.A.

Established in 1847.

Profits all belong to the Members, and are apportioned every three years.

Cash Bonus of 22½ per cent. just declared.

Accumulated Fund is equal to six years of the nett premiums.

Last Report and Balance Sheet to be obtained from

ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary

Money advanced on Freehold and other good securities.

MR. STREETER (Successor to

HANCOCK and CO., Limited),

GOLDSMITH and JEWELLER,

WATCH and CLOCK-MAKER

TO the ROYAL FAMILY,

37, CONDUIT-STREET,

BOND-STREET, LONDON, W.,

INTRODUCER of the CELEBRATED

18-CARAT GOLD JEWELLERY, also

WATCHES and CLOCKS,

MACHINE-MADE.

BRACELETS, STRAP, 18-CARAT £5 0

BRACELETS, ETRUSCAN, „ £7 0

BRACELETS, NINEVEH, „ £10 0

BRACELETS, SAXON, „ £15 0

BROOCHES, ETRUSCAN, „ £2 10

BROOCHES, NINEVEH, „ £3 0

BROOCHES, SAXON, „ £4 0

BROOCHES, EGYPTIAN, „ £5 0

CHAINS, PRINCESS, „ £2 0

CHAINS, CYLINDER, „ £3

CHAINS, CURB, „ £4

CHAINS, CABLE, „ £5 0

EARRINGS, ETRUSCAN, „ £1 10

EARRINGS, SAXON, „ £2 5

EARRINGS, EGYPTIAN, „ £3 5

EARRINGS, NINEVEH, „ £4 10

LOCKETS, ENGRAVED, „ £1 0

LOCKETS, CORDED, „ £2 10

LOCKETS, CROSS, „ £4 0

GOLD WATCHES, LADIES', £8 8

GOLD WATCHES, „ £10 10

GOLD WATCHES, ½-PLATE, £15 15

GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING), £11 11

GOLD WATCHES, ¾-PLATE, £16 16

GOLD WATCHES, „ £20 0

GOLD WATCHES, KEYLESS £15 10

GOLD WATCHES, „ £22

GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING), £18 18

CLOCKS, CARRIAGE, £5 0

CLOCKS, „ (STRIKING), £7 7

CLOCKS, „ „ (ON GONG), £12 12

CLOCKS, LIBRARY (MARBLE), £4 0

CLOCKS, „ „ £10 12

CLOCKS, „ „ £14 0

CLOCKS, „ (ORMOLU), £10 0

CLOCKS, „ „ £15 0

THE ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE,

BOUND in CLOTH, is now Ready,

POST FREE for TWO STAMPS, only of

MR. STREETER, 37, CONDUIT-STREET,

5 DOORS from BOND-STREET,

SUCCESSOR to HANCOCK & CO. LTD.

LIMITED

SUBSCRIPTION for 20,000 FIVE PER CENT. PREFERRED SHARES of £10 each, in 2000 Certificates of 10 Shares each, equal to £100 Stock each Certificate, of the BEDFORD and NORTHAMPTON RAILWAY, with interest secured in perpetuity by the revenue guaranteed by the Midland Railway Company. Price of issue, £92 10s. per Certificate of £100, equal to £9 5s. per Share, yielding to the investor £5 8s. per cent. per annum interest.—Messrs. J. and A. Scrimgeour are authorised by the Contractors to receive applications for 20,000 Preferred Shares of the Bedford and Northampton Railway, in 2000 Certificates of 10 Shares each, bearing 5 per cent. per annum interest in perpetuity.

The price of the Preferred Shares now offered is £92 10s. for each Certificate of 10 Shares (equal to £100 Stock), and payment will be accepted as follows:—

£10 on each Certificate subscribed, payable on application.	
20 " " " " " " " "	17th Dec., 1870.
20 " " " " " " " "	17th Feb., 1871.
20 " " " " " " " "	17th March, 1871.
22 10s. " " " " " " " "	17th April, 1871.

£92 10s.

The Preferred Shares will bear interest at 5 per cent. per annum from the 1st December, 1870, on the full amount of £100, equal to £5 8s. per cent. per annum on the amount invested, and the option is given of paying the whole of the instalments on allotment or on either of the above dates, in which case discount will be allowed in addition, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on such prepayments.

The interest will be payable half-yearly, on the 31st January and 31st July in each year, at the banking-house of Messrs. Roberts, Lubbock, and Co., No. 15, Lombard-street, London.

By special agreements, incorporated in the Acts of Parliament, the Midland Railway Company is to maintain, manage, stock, and work the Bedford and Northampton Railway, and to pay over 50 per cent. of the divisible receipts, such receipts being taken in the accounts between the two Companies at the minimum of £30 per mile per week, which, on the twenty miles of the railway, gives minimum guaranteed receipts to the Bedford and Northampton Railway Company of £15,000 per annum.

The Midland Railway Company take over the line on its completion, when their guarantee comes into effect; the contractors are under engagement to finish the line by the 31st of August next, and they will pay interest on the Preferred Shares until the line is so taken over at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the full £100 per Certificate, and the amount will be invested in Consols in the joint names of W. C. Curtis, Esq., 15, Lombard-street, London (Messrs. Roberts, Lubbock, and Co., bankers), and Colonel W. B. Higgins, Pict's Hill, Bedford (Chairman of the Bedford and Northampton Railway), who have consented to act as trustees for the Preference Shareholders, and will apply the amount in the payment of such interest.

Provisional Certificates of 10 Shares each will be issued in exchange for the banker's receipt, to be substituted, when fully paid up, for Certificates of the Company, the Shares being then transferred into the name of each applicant, free of all stamp duty.

The Share Capital of the Company is £100,000, in 20,000 Shares of £50 each, converted into Preferred Shares—20,000 Half Shares, £10 each, bearing 5 per cent. per annum interest (being the Shares now offered) £200,000
Deferred Shares—20,000 Half Shares, £10 each—to receive no dividend until 5 per cent. is paid to the Preferred Shares 200,000
With the usual borrowing powers, viz., £133,000 in debentures or rent charges.

In the allotment of the Shares applicants will be considered in the following order:—

1st. Applicants who desire to pay up the Shares in full on allotment under discount for investment.

2nd. Applicants who may be holders of Leicester and Hitchin Railway Stock, Midland Railway Stock, and general applicants.

Applications, accompanied by the payment of £10 for each Certificate applied for, will be received on the form enclosed in the prospectuses, which must be filled up and forwarded to Messrs. Roberts, Lubbock, and Co., bankers, No. 15, Lombard-street, E.C., London; or to the Northamptonshire Union Bank, Northampton; or to Howard Lancaster, Esq., Secretary of the Company, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., London; or to Messrs. J. and A. Scrimgeour, 18, Old Broad-street, E.C., London, of whom prospectuses may be had.

London, Dec. 2, 1870.

The Directors and Officers of the Bedford and Northampton Railway (direct line from London to Northampton, via Bedford and the Midland Railway) are:—

DIRECTORS.
Colonel W. B. HIGGINS, Pict's Hill, Bedford, Chairman.
ALBERT RICARDO, Esq., Raymead, near Maidenhead, Deputy Chairman.

J. Alington Bastard, Esq., 59, Cadogan-place, London.
Colonel J. Amber Cole, 116, Pall Mall, London.
Joseph Palmer, Esq., Cliney, Bucks.

ENGINEER.
Charles Liddell, Esq., 24, Abingdon-street, Westminster.

SOLICITOR.
Charles Morgan, Esq., 15, Old Jewry Chambers, E.C., London.

AUDITORS.
Henry W. Notman, Esq., Secretary of the Great Southern of India Railway.

BROKERS.
Samuel Price, Esq., 70, Cheapside, E.C.

BANKERS.
Messrs. J. and A. Scrimgeour, 18, Old Broad-street, E.C.

BANKERS.
Messrs. Roberts, Lubbock, and Co., No. 15, Lombard-street, London.

SECRETARY.
The Northamptonshire Union Bank, Northampton.

Howard Lancaster, Esq.

Offices—2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W. London.

The Bedford and Northampton Railway—coloured red on the accompanying plan—is incorporated under Acts of Parliament of 1863-6-7 and 1870.

The line is twenty miles in length, and is a continuation of the Midland Railway from Bedford to Northampton, thus completing a direct route from London to this important district by the Midland Railway.

The Railway is being constructed as a double line, and, in accordance with the clause of the Act of Parliament, in all respects equal to the Leicester and Hitchin Railway, which is leased by the Midland Railway Company.

The traffic on the Bedford and Northampton Railway—forming, as it will, a link of the great system of the Midland Railway—must be very large.

The Midland Railway receipts average 88s. per mile per week on the whole of its system of 8.6 miles; and there is every reason for believing this line will be equal to the average of most of the Midland system; but, taking the traffic at only 50s. per mile per week, this would give the Company a net receipt of 24,000s. per annum; and as, irrespective of the amount of traffic, the Midland Railway Company guarantee absolutely a minimum net income of 15,000s. per annum, it follows that the interest on the preferred shares now offered is absolutely secured.

On the above estimate of traffic, however—after paying the interest on the debentures and rent charges, and also interest on the preferred shares now for subscription—there would be a surplus income of 10,600s.; so that both from the guarantee of the Midland Railway, as well as from the anticipated traffic, the preferred shares form a most eligible investment.

To show the advantageous price at which the preferred shares are now offered it is only necessary to furnish the two following quotations:—

The shares of the Leicester and Hitchin Railway, with a

guarantee by the Midland Railway of 4 per cent. are quoted at 92s. per 100s., which is equal to 115s. at 5 per cent.

The shares of the Bedford and Northampton Railway, now offered for subscription at 92s. 10s. per 100s., bear 5 per cent. interest, and are consequently 2s. per cent. less in price, although in effect, an equal security, as, by agreement with the Midland Railway Company, the Bedford and Northampton Railway is to be assimilated in the character and solidity of its works to the Leicester and Hitchin Railway.

The Five per Cent. Preference Shares of the Midland Railway Company, from whom the Bedford and Northampton Railway will receive its guaranteed revenue, are at 110s. per cent., so that the Shares now offered are 17s. per cent. lower in price than those.

Immediately the line is complete the Subscribers will undoubtedly possess a security of an increased value of at least 20 per cent.

To trustees and capitalists the security now offered presents an unusually advantageous investment.

London, 2nd December, 1870.

The above is abridged from the full Prospectus, which with forms of application, may be had of Messrs. J. and A. Scrimgeour, No. 18, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

To be Retained by the Bankers,

To Messrs. J. and A. Scrimgeour, 18, Old Broad-street, London.

Gentlemen,—Having paid to Messrs. Roberts, Lubbock, and Co., bankers, the sum of _____ pounds, being 10s. per Certificate on my application for _____ Certificates of ten Preferred Half-Shares of 10s. each, of the Bedford and Northampton Railway Company, I request you to have transferred to me that or any less amount of the said shares, and I hereby agree to accept such transfer, and to pay the balance in respect of such shares according to the terms of the Prospectus attached hereto dated 2nd December, 1870.

Name (in full).....
Address.....
Profession (if any).....
Date..... 1870.

Signature.....
(Addition to be signed by Applicant desiring to pay up the instalments, under discount.)

It is my intention to pay up my Subscription in full, on allotment, receiving discount for prepayment of the instalments.

Signature.....

SUBSCRIPTION for 20,000 FIVE PERCENT PREFERRED SHARES of £10 each of the BEDFORD and NORTHAMPTON RAILWAY.—Notice is hereby Given, that the **LISTS OF APPLICATION** for the above will be **CLOSED** to-morrow, Thursday, the 8th, for London, and on Friday, the 9th instant, for Country applications.

J. and A. SCRIMGEOUR.
No. 18, Old Broad-street, London, December 7th, 1870.

WANTED, after Christmas, by a YOUNG LADY of considerable experience, with good references, a **SITUATION as GOVERNESS** in a family. Qualifications—Good English, French, Music, and Drawing.—Address, E. M. F., care of Rev. R. H. Lovell, 2, Fairlight-villas, King Edward's-road, South Hackney, London.

RESIDENT GOVERNESS.—A YOUNG LADY accustomed to tuition **SEEKS a RE-ENGAGEMENT** as above. She is competent to teach English, French, and Music, German (acquired abroad), and the rudiments of Latin.—Address, S. M. S., Bourton-on-Water, Gloucestershire.

STROUD LADIES' COLLEGE, BEECHES-GREEN, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Principals—The Misses HOWARD

Resident English, French, and German Governesses.

Attendant Professors.

Reports monthly. Test Examinations every term.

This College educates Daughters of Gentlemen and Professional Men.

The house is large, airy, and well situated, and has an ample lawn for out-of-door recreation.

The Misses Howard aim to secure for their Pupils a sound literary and intellectual culture, refined manners, together with a healthy Christian and moral training.

Prospectus, with references and copies of Examination Papers, on application.

VICTORIA VILLA, FINCHLEY, N.

ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES. Conducted by MRS. WASHINGTON WILKS. The course of instruction embraces the usual branches of a thorough English education, with the French and German Languages; also Piano, Singing, and Drawing taught by competent Masters.

HOME and SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES.—Conducted by the Misses WHEAT and NADEN. Terms, 14 guineas the Half-year, including French, Music, and Drawing.—The Terrace, Gableton, Spalding.

HEATHFIELD, STONYGATE, LEICESTER.

EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES.

CONDUCTED BY THE MISTRESS MIALL.

MASTERS.

French and Italian Mons. C. C. Caillard.
German Mdlle. Hottinger.
Music and Singing J. Saville Stone, Esq., Associate, Royal Academy.

Drawing and Painting J. Hoch, Esq.
Dancing and Calisthenics Mdlle. L'Anglée.
Chemistry Dr. Albert J. Bernays, Professor of Chemistry, at St. Thomas's Hospital, London.

Arithmetic Mr. J. Hepworth.

The above branches of education are taught exclusively by the Masters assigned to them. The general English education is under the immediate direction of the Principals and a competent staff of Governesses.

Terms forwarded on application.

LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 37, Queen's-square, Bloomsbury, W.C. Beds, from 1s. 6d. Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s. 3d.

See Testimonials, of which there are a thousand in the Visitors' Book.

"We are more than satisfied; we are truly delighted to find in London so quiet and comfortable a domicile. We shall certainly highly recommend Shirley's to all our friends."—J. ROBERTS, Bourne.

"As on all previous visits, I can testify that this is the most comfortable home I find when away from home."—W. B. HARVEY, Frome.

"After visiting various places in England, I have come to consider Shirley's (in view of its combining the greatest comfort and respectability, with the most moderate charges) as the Temperance Hotel par excellence."—J. K. KARCHER, Toronto, C.W.

KERSHAW'S FAMILY and PRIVATE HOTEL, 14, Charter House-square, Aldersgate-street, London.

Visitors to London will meet with a comfortable home at the above Establishment, which is pleasantly and centrally situated within five minutes' walk of the General Post Office and one minute from the Aldersgate-street station of the Metropolitan Railway.

Terms 5s. per day, including Bed, Breakfast, Tea, and attendance. Private Sitting Rooms.

M. R. COOKE BAINES,
SURVEYOR AND COMPENSATION VALUER.
106, Cheapside, E.C.

Every information supplied as to the various Metropolitan improvements.

Claims against Railway and other Public Companies prepared and arranged.

ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF PROPERTY VALUED FOR PROBATE, &c.

Money obtained on Freehold or Leasehold Securities.

MONEY.—LOANS Granted, from £100 to £2,000, at 5 per cent. repayable over three years, on Personal Security and Life Policy effected with the WEST of ENGLAND INSURANCE CO. (Established 1807).—Apply to J. CROCKER, (Agency Superintendent, GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE. Agents wanted.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Professor PEPPER "ON THE WAR, AND THE DESTRUCTIVE IMPLEMENTS USED THEREAT," daily at quarter to 8 and quarter to 8, with Elaborate Pictorial Illustrations which have been supplied by the War Correspondent of the Polytechnic, &c. Mr. SUCHET CHAMPION will sing the GERMAN, FRENCH, AND ENGLISH PATRIOTIC SONGS.—The Explanation of the GHOST as usual.—The FRAEGER FAMILY give their CONCERTS daily at quarter-past 4 and quarter-past 9.

OSLER'S GLASS CHANDELIERS.

TABLE GLASS OF ALL KINDS.

CHANDELIERS IN BRONZE AND ORMOLU.

Moderator Lamps, and Lamps for India.

LONDON—Show Rooms, 45, OXFORD-STREET, W.

BIRMINGHAM—Manufactory and Show Rooms, Broad-street.

PATRONISED by the CROWN PRINCESS of PRUSSIA,

the SULTAN of TURKEY, and the NAWAB NAZIM of

BENGAL.

Christmas Presents.

NO MORE USEFUL PRESENT than a really good SEWING MACHINE can possibly be made at this season. But there are so many Sewing Machines, each of which puts forth some real or alleged claim to the favourable consideration of the public, that it is difficult to make a selection. Ladies may inspect and work every description of Sewing Machine at

SMITH & CO'S,

who impartially recommend the Machine best suited to the description of work required to be done. Any Machine sold by Smith and Co. may be exchanged within one month for any other kind without charge for use.

SMITH & CO.,

4, CHARLES STREET, SOHO SQUARE.

LADIES' CORK-SOLED BOOTS

For damp weather, 21s.; Kid double-soled Boots 16s. 6d.; Velvet Flannel-lined Boots, 5s. 6d.; Velvet Slippers, 3s. 6d. Illustrated Catalogues, post free, with notice of convenient arrangements for Country Residents.

THOMAS D. MARSHALL, 192, Oxford-street, London.

STATIONERY, PRINTING, ACCOUNT

BOOKS, and every requisite for the Counting-house. Qualities and prices will compare advantageously with any house in the trade. The Forms and Account Books required under "The Companies' Acts, 1862 and 1867," kept in stock. Share Certificates Engraved and Printed. Official Seals Designed and Executed.—ASH and FLINT, 49, Fleet-street, City, E.C., and opposite the Railway Stations, London-bridge, S.E.

CHEAP CHURCH and SCHOOL STOVE.

The PATENT VENTILATING STOVE, as a Close Stove, will be found cheap, simple, efficient, and durable. It is economical in the consumption of fuel, has been extensively adopted and universally approved. Prices, 50s., 60s., 70s., 90s., and 120s. Prospectus, with engravings, gratis and post free, on application to DEANE and Co., who have it in operation daily. A large stock of Hot-Air Stoves always on sale. Gas Stoves with patent burner and requiring no fuel, from 50s. Churches, Chapels, and Public Buildings heated by hot water. Estimates furnished.—DEANE and Co., 46, King William-street, London Bridge. Established A.D. 1700.

IRON CHAPELS, SCHOOLS, &c.

F. BRABY & CO.

PRICE LISTS AND DRAWINGS FREE ON APPLICATION.

F. BRABY & CO.,

FITZROY WORKS, EUSTON ROAD, LONDON,

And at IDA WHARF, DEPTFORD.

FRANCIS MORTON and COMPANY,

LIMITED, ENGINEERS and GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS. Head Offices and Works, NAYLOR-STREET, LIVERPOOL.

IRON CHURCHES, CHAPELS, SCHOOLHOUSES, &c.,

On a much improved system.

The Architectural and Structural details under the special direction of the Company's Architect.

Prices on application.

CORNS and BUNIONS.—A gentleman,

many years tormented with Corns, will be happy to afford others the information by which he obtained their complete removal in a short period, without pain or any inconvenience.—Forward address, on a stamped envelope, to F. Kingston, Esq., Church-street, Ware, Herts.

LIBERATOR PERMANENT BUILDING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETY,

48, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON BRIDGE, E.C.
(Close to the Monument).

The Business of this Society is now conducted at the above address. For Prospectuses, Reports, &c., apply to

J. SPENCER BALFOUR, Managing Director.

ENTIRE WHEAT FLOUR (Chapman's Patent Prepared)

FOR INFANTS.

Is recommended by the Faculty as the best food for INFANTS; as it is very easy of digestion, and contains in due proportion all the substances required for healthy growth.

ENTIRE WHEAT FLOUR (Chapman's Patent Prepared)

FOR CHILDREN.

Is acknowledged to be the most wholesome and nutritious diet for CHILDREN, its richness in earthy phosphates ensuring healthy development of the teeth and bony frame.

ENTIRE WHEAT FLOUR (Chapman's Patent Prepared)

FOR INVALIDS.

The continued use of the Flour is very efficacious in restoring strength after illness of all kinds, and is most beneficial to sufferers from dyspepsia and liver complaint.

ENTIRE WHEAT FLOUR (Chapman's Patent Prepared)

Sold retail by Chemists, &c., in 3d., 6d., and 1s. packets, and 5s. tins.

COLMAN'S BRITISH CORN-FLOUR, PREPARED FROM RICE,

the staple food of more than Three Hundred Millions (300,000,000) of people, is un-quelled for Blanc-Mange, Custards, Puddings, Cakes, Soups, &c., and is the most wholesome and easily-digestible Food for Children and Invalids.

COLMAN'S BRITISH CORN-FLOUR Makes a delicious Blanc-Mange and Baked Pudding.

COLMAN'S BRITISH CORN-FLOUR Makes nice Infants' Food, and so, thickening Milk.

COLMAN'S BRITISH CORN-FLOUR Makes the best Cup-Pudding, and most delicious Custard.

COLMAN'S BRITISH CORN-FLOUR Is the best article ever offered to the public. Sold by all respectable Grocers, &c. in lib., ½lb., and ¼lb. Packets.

TESTIMONIALS.

EDWIN LANKASTER, M.D., F.R.S., says:—

"Rice-Flour is Corn-Flour, and I regard this preparation of Messrs. Colman's as superior to anything of the kind now before the public."

SHERIDAN MUSPRAT, M.D., Professor at the Liverpool College of Chemistry, writes:—

"I can highly recommend it as a palatable and very digestible and nutritious food."

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS. THE "WORCESTERSHIRE,"

Pronounced by Connoisseurs, "The only Good Sauce," Improves the appetite, and aids digestion. Unrivalled for piquancy and flavour.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS, and see the Names of LEA & PERRINS on all bottles and labels.

Agents—CROSSE and BLACKWELL, London, and sold by all Dealers in Sauces throughout the World.

"NO PURER SPIRIT IMPORTED."

—Dr. Hassall.

"INVALUABLE FOR FAMILY USE."

—Dr. Normanby.

Marshall's Hungarian Brandy.

5s. 6d. per bottle (capped and labelled) of most retail Wine and Spirit Merchants, 42s. per dozen case (carriage paid).

Depôt:—Duke Street, Bloomsbury, London.

INHERITED WEAKNESS AND DEBILITY.

This subject is popularly treated in HYPOGASTRIA, a new work by Mr. Harry Lobb, M.R.C.S.E., &c., Surgeon Electrician. Post free, 7s. 6d. Contents—Weakness, Stammering, Spinal Debility, and irritation, Loss of Tone, Nervous Exhaustion, &c. To be obtained at 31, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, W.

LADIES.—The experience of more than 100 years has established the character of

DR. JOHN HOOPER'S FEMALE PILLS

As a safe, efficacious, and truly invaluable medicine. Beware of deleterious counterfeits. The genuine Pills bear the name of Dr. JOHN HOOPER, and may be obtained at

BARCLAY and SONS, Farringdon-street

Edwards, Sanger, Butler and Crispe, and Thompson; and Retail of all Chemists and Druggists.

ASTHMA.—DATURA TATULA.

"Of great efficacy in cases of Asthma and Chronic Bronchitis."—Dublin Journal of Medical Science. "The fumes cause no nausea, so that the most delicate lady may use the remedy. I have never known an instance in which relief was not obtained."—Letter from Gen. Alexander. Tins 2s. 6d., 3s., 10s., and 18s. Cigars and Cigarettes, in boxes, 3s., 6s., and 15s. Pastilles for inhalation, boxes, 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s.

SAVORY and MOORE, 143, New Bond-street, London.

FILMER AND SON'S EASY CHAIRS, COUCHES, and SOFAS,

Celebrated for upwards of forty years for their grace and comfort. 300 different shapes of the best quality on view and ready for immediate delivery at their extensive show-rooms and galleries.

31 and 32, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

Every article marked in plain figures. An Illustrated Catalogue, post free.

TO LADIES AND THE PUBLIC.

FASHIONS FOR AUTUMN.

JAMES SPENCE & Co., 76, 77, and 78, St. Paul's Churchyard, respectfully solicit early attention to their—

NEW AUTUMN STOCK

OF Silks, Mantles, Shawls, Furs, Costumes, Skirts, French Merinoes, Repps, Flannels, Linens, Hosiery, Gloves, Ribbons, Lace, Trimmings, Fancy Goods, &c.

Schools, Hotelkeepers, Public Institutions, and Heads of Families liberally dealt with.

JAMES SPENCE and CO., 76, 77, and 78, St. Paul's Churchyard.

USE ONLY THE

GLENFIELD STARCH.

THE QUEEN'S LAUNDRESS USES NO OTHER.

A DELIGHTFUL & LASTING FRAGRANCE,

With a Delicate and clear Complexion, by using

THE CELEBRATED

UNITED SERVICE SOAP TABLETS,

4d. and 6d. each. Manufactured by

J. C. and J. FIELD, UPPER MARSH, LAMBETH.

Order of your Chemist, Grocer, or Chandler.

COAL.—GEORGE J. COCKERELL and COMPANY, Established 1838.—Best Coals only.—Cash, 25s. G. J. C. and Co. sell no other than the best Wallend Coals, which they believe to be the cleanest, the most durable, and the cheapest in the end for all domestic purposes. Vendors to Her Majesty, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh.—13, Cornhill; Eaton Wharf, Pimlico (office next to the Grosvenor Hotel); Purfleet Wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars; Sunderland Wharf, Peckham; Durham Wharf, Wandsworth (Office, 108, High-street); High-level Station, Crystal Palace; also at Brighton at local prices.

COALS.—LEA and CO'S PRICES.—

Hetton or Lambton Wall's-end, by screw steamers and railway, 24s.; H. A. Liverpool, 23s.; East Wigan, 21s.; best Silkestone, 21s.; new Silkestone, 20s.; Clay-cross, 22s. and 19s.; Primrose, 19s.; Barnsley, 18s.; best Derby, 18s.; Kitchen, 17s.; Cobbles, 16s.; Hartley, 17s.; Nuts, 15s.; Tansfield Moor, 20s.; small, 12s. Coke, 14s. per 12 sacks. Net cash. Delivered thoroughly screened. Depôts: Highbury and Highgate, N.; Kingsland, N.E.; Beauvoir Wharf, Kingsland-road; Great Northern Railway Stations, King's cross and Holloway; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's-park-basin. No Agents.

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA.

The best remedy for

ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH,

HEARTBURN, HEADACHE, GOUT, and INDIGESTION; and the best mild aperient for delicate constitutions, especially adapted for LADIES, CHILDREN, and INFANTS.

DINNEFORD AND CO.,

172, New Bond-street, London, and of all Chemists.

New Periodical, 3d. monthly.

SUNDAY MORNING, consisting of Original Articles characterised by Evangelical Breadth, Brief, Comprehensive, and Thoughtful. Royal 8vo, toned paper, handsomely printed.

Rivington, Marshall, and Co., and all Booksellers.

INVESTMENTS. DIVIDENDS

10 to 20 PER CENT. ON OUTLAY.

Read SHARP'S INVESTMENT CIRCULAR (post free)

This Month's Number now ready.

It contains all the Best-paying and Safest Stock and Share Investments.

CAPITALISTS, SHAREHOLDERS, TRUSTEES,

Will find the above Circular a safe, valuable, and reliable guide.

Messrs. SHARP and Co, Stock and Share Brokers, 33, Poultry, London (Established 1853).

Bankers: London and Westminster, Lothbury, E.C.

BOOKS BOUGHT, to any amount, and the utmost price given in cash, saving the delay, uncertainty, and expense of auction, by a secondhand Bookseller, thirty years established. Catalogues of Twenty Thousand Volumes gratis.

N.B.—Manuscript Sermons, 6d. each.

T. MILLARD, 33, Ludgate-hill, London.

LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT of MEAT.

FOUR GOLD MEDALS.

CAUTION.—Require Baron Liebig's signature on every Jar and Tin.

5lb. Tins supplied in enormous quantities to both French and German troops in the field, and this size specially recommended to Relief Committees.

CROSBY'S

BALSAMIC COUGH ELIXIR.

Opiates, Narcotics, and Squills, are too often invoked to give relief in Coughs, Colds, and all Pulmonary Diseases. Instead of such fallacious remedies, which yield momentary relief at the expense of enfeebling the digestive organs, and thus increasing that debility which lies at the root of the malady, modern science points to CROSBY'S BALSAMIC COUGH ELIXIR as the true remedy.

SELECT TESTIMONIAL.

Dr. Rooke, Scarborough, author of the "Anti-Lancet," says:—"I have repeatedly observed how very rapidly and invariably it subdued Cough, Pain, and Irritation of the Chest in cases of Pulmonary Consumption, and I can, with the greatest confidence, recommend it as a most valuable adjunct to an other-wise strengthening treatment for this disease."

This medicine, which is free from opium and squills, not only allays the local irritation, but improves digestion and strengthens the constitution. Hence it is used with the most signal success in Asthma, Bronchitis, Consumption, Coughs, Influenza, Night Sweats of Consumption, Quinsy, and all affections of the throat and chest. Sold by all respectable Chemists and Patent Medicine Dealers in bottles at 1s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each; and wholesale by JAS. M. CROSBY, Chemist, Scarborough.

Invalids should read Crosby's Prize Treatise on "Diseases of the Lungs and Air-Vessels," a copy of which can be had gratis of all Chemists.

KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS.

Invaluable for Families, Emigrants, Colonists, and all who desire a remedy that may be constantly depended on to cure all complaints that arise from defective circulation and inferiority of the blood. No family should be without them.

Sold by all Chemists and other dealers in patent medicines at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. per box.

HOOPIING COUGH.—ROCHE'S HERBAL

EMBRICATION is recommended by many of the most eminent of the Faculty as the only known safe and perfect cure, without the use of medicine. Sold by most Chemists in bottles, at 4s. each. Wholesale Agent, Edwards, 38, Old Change (formerly of 57, St. Paul's), London.

RUPTURES.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT LEVER

TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Conison, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

A Descriptive Circular may be had by post, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer.

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Price of a Single Truss, 10s., 21s., 30s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage, 1s. 8d.

Price of an Umbilical Truss, 4s. and 5s. Postage, 1s. 10d. Post Office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post Office, Piccadilly.

NEW PATENT

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c.

The material of which these are made is recommended by the Faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 10s., and 16s. each. Postage 6d.

John White, Manufacturer, 228, Piccadilly, London.

STRAHAN & CO.'S NEW LIST.

The WINDOW; or, the Loves of the Wrens. A Series of Songs by ALFRED TENNYSON. With Music by ARTHUR SULLIVAN. 4to, cloth, gilt extra, price 2½s.

[Ready on Dec. 15.]

The CONTEMPORARY REVIEW, for DECEMBER (price 2s. 6d.) contains:—The School Boards, by Professor HUXLEY—The Theory of a Soul, by the Rev. Father DALGAIRES—The War and General Culture: Conversations No. IV. and V., by the Author of "Friends in Council"—An Irish Utopia, by the Rev. ALFRED CHURCH—The Payment of Members of Parliament, by GEORGE ODOER—On the Term "Infidelity," by the Rev. FRANCIS GARDEN—Music and Morals, by the Rev. H. R. HAWES—The Council of Trent: a Study from New Documents, by Dr. A. PICHLER, Keeper of the Imperial Library, St. Petersburg—The Great Duel, by W. R. G.

The ST. PAULS MAGAZINE, for DECEMBER (price 1s.) contains:—Wilfrid Cumbermede, an Autobiographical Story by GEORGE MACDONALD, Chaps. VII.—IX.—Marie de Mancini, by O. E. MEETERKE—"Grand Cœur pour grande Heure," by DORA GREENWELL—Why the Army is Unpopular, by a STAFF SERGEANT—Louis XIV. as a Matchmaker, by T. A. TROLLOPE—Browning's Poems: The Ring and the Book, Part I., by E. J. H.—Moral Indignation as a National Characteristic—The Victorious Prussians, by ARCHIBALD FORBES—A Garden Idyll, by AUSTIN DOBSON—We Four in Normandy, by the Author of "John Halifax, Gentleman," Part III., Mont St. Michel—Ralph the Heir, by ANTHONY TROLLOPE, Chaps. XXXV.—XXXVIII.

IONA. By the Duke of Argyll. With Illustrations. Crown 8vo, 3s. 6d.

The MIRACLES of OUR LORD. By GEORGE MACDONALD. Crown 8vo, 5s.

REHEARSALS: a Book of Verses. By J. LEICESTER WARREN, Author of "Philoctetes," &c. Crown 8vo, 6s.

CHAMBER DRAMAS for CHILDREN. By Mrs. GEORGE MACDONALD. Crown 8vo, 7s. 6d.

The BOY in GREY. By Henry KINGSLEY. With Illustrations by Arthur Hughes. Crown 8vo, 3s. 6d.

LECTURES and TRACTS. By Baboo KESHUB CHUNDER SEN. Edited by S. D. COLLET. Crown 8vo, 5s.

"To Miss Collet, for her indefatigable labours in making the Brahmo Samaj properly known in England, both India and England have much reason to be grateful."—Spectator.

PASSAGES from the ENGLISH NOTE-BOOKS of NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE. Two Vols., post 8vo, 24s.

"These two volumes, intended to give us Hawthorne's impressions of England and the English, give us incidentally his own disposition and character from a thousand points of view, and form one of the minutest and most finished self-portraits that was ever drawn. . . . Our rural life seems to have had an especial charm for him. The cottages, not very old, perhaps, but still all of them older than the oldest buildings in America; the aged men in their antiquated coats and breeches, sunning themselves by the wayside; a servant girl, a gatekeeper, a Westmorland peasant over his ale, these he delights to touch with stroke after stroke, but rank and fashion do not occupy his pen. He keeps us in the open air, in the streets and green lanes, and shows us 'England and the English as they are'—Times, Nov. 8.

GINX'S BABY; his Birth and other Misadventures. Fifth Edition. Crown 8vo, 6s.

"The strangely-clever and tragical history of 'Ginx's Baby' . . . We can assure the reader, if he has not yet seen the story of 'Ginx's Baby,' that there is that in it will make him smile and make him groan, and perhaps give him in the end a truer sense of the misery of his fellow creatures and their need of Christian succour than the appeals of many societies or the beggar's cunningest wail."—Blackwood's Magazine, Nov.

RELIGIOUS LIFE in GERMANY during the WARS of INDEPENDENCE. In a Series of Historical and Biographical Sketches. By WILLIAM BAUR. Two Vols., post 8vo, 10s.

"There is hardly a sketch in the whole work but is an education to read. . . . The book, in short, is full of rich humanity, in which few readers will fail to take delight. The English, too, is of the pleasantest kind."—Athenæum.

PEASANT LIFE in the NORTH. New and Cheaper Edition. Post 8vo, 6s.

"This book has already passed the first ordeal of public judgment, and is in a second edition—in this case a tribute to real excellence, and a truth to life and nature quite extraordinary among the many varieties of fiction. . . . Literature and the world are the better for a picture so homely, so pure, and so elevated in feeling as the picture of Muckle Jock's courtship. The description of the beginning of his love is as perfect as any classic idyll, yet as true to all the homely associations of the ploughman's life as the simplest history could be. The other stories in the volume are full of the truest feeling for Scottish nature, both in landscape and humanity."—Blackwood's Magazine, Nov.

HEROES of HEBREW HISTORY. By SAMUEL WILBERFORCE, D.D., Bishop of Winchester. Third Edition, post 8vo, 9s.

"Dr. Wilberforce presents Old Testament story with such force and vigour, in a style so clear and adorned with such rich but chaste ornament, that while his high and unyielding orthodoxy will delight all High Churchmen, his rendering of Scripture history will be accepted by the veriest sceptic as a rare intellectual treat."—Times.

MEMORIALS of CHARLES PARRY, Commander, Royal Navy. By his Brother, the Right Rev. EDWARD PARRY, D.D., Bishop Suffragan of Dover. Second Edition, small 8vo, 5s.

"By a judicious selection from his letters, strung together by a minimum of explanatory information, Bishop Parry has succeeded in placing before us what might be called an undesignated religious autobiography of very high value. . . . It ought to find a place in every young officer's outfit."—Record.

GOOD CHEER for CHRISTMAS, 1870. (being the Extra Number of GOOD WORDS). Price 6d. Illustrated. [Now ready.]

56, LUDGATE HILL.

NEW WORK BY THE REV. ALBERT BARNES.

Just published, post 8vo, cloth, 5s. 6d.

THE EVIDENCES of CHRISTIANITY in the NINETEENTH CENTURY. By ALBERT BARNES, Author of "Notes on the New Testament," &c.

"Handled in a clear, concise, and quite popular way. Mr. Barnes seems thoroughly well read on both sides of the controversy, and that not merely in the dry, dead past, but in the modern and everyday aspects of the battle-field. We wish for this volume a very wide circulation."—Weekly Review.

London: Blackie and Son, 44, Paternoster-row.

NOW ON SALE,

Imp. 8vo, in handsome Ornamental Wrapper, with Frontispiece, "Stirring the Christmas Pudding."

CHRISTMAS TIDE: an extra Part of the LEISURE HOUR for CHRISTMAS. Price Sixpence. Sold by all Booksellers.

London: 56, Paternoster-row.

SACRED POEMS BY NEWMAN HALL, LL.B.

PILGRIM SONGS IN CLOUD AND SUNSHINE. Just published, small 8vo, cloth, 2s.; gilt extra, 3s.

Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

Now ready,

THE LIFE of OUR LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST; also the LIVES of the APOSTLES and EVANGELISTS. By JOHN FLEETWOOD, D.D. With copious Notes from recent and living Biblical Scholars. Upwards of 800 Woodcuts, and sixty-seven highly-finished full-page Chromatic Engravings.

Price, cloth extra, gilt, 8s. 6d.; half morocco, 42s.

27,500 copies sold. On toned paper, in Two Vols., 4to, 2,500 pp., handsomely bound in cloth. Price One Guinea.

KITTO'S FAMILY BIBLE. Illustrated with upwards of 800 Engravings. With Copious Original Notes on the History, Geography, Natural History, Literature, and Antiquities of the Sacred Scriptures; and Additional Chapters by the Rev. T. BIRKS, M.A., Author of "The Bible and Modern Thought."

*A Copy will be presented to any person procuring Ten Subscribers, and sent carriage-free to any railway station in England. Testimonials and Illustrated Specimens free. Bound Copies in Stock.

TO VILLAGE PREACHERS AND HEADS OF FAMILIES.

THE CLASS and the DESK (20,000 Vols. sold.)—This original work consists of Two Series. The Old Testament contains 144 Prepared Lessons. The New Testament contains 128 Prepared Lessons, with 50 Sunday-school Addresses. Both Series are equally applicable to the Class in schools, the Desk in addresses, and the Pulpit in regular discourses. Each Series is complete in 12 Nos. at 2d.; or One Vol., cloth bound, 3s. Post free.

OLD ENGLAND. (40,000 Copies sold.)—A Pictorial Museum of Royal, Ecclesiastical, Baronial, Municipal, and Popular Antiquities, from the Earliest Period to the Present Time. With nearly 8,000 Illustrations, including forty folio-sized Coloured Engravings. Edited by CHARLES KNIGHT, Esq. In Two Vols., handsome cloth elegant, gilt, £2 12s.

James Sangster and Co., 31, Paternoster-row, and all Booksellers.

NEW AND COMPREHENSIVE COMMENTARY.

Now Issuing in Monthly Parts, price 8d. each, post free,

THE BIBLICAL MUSEUM: Consisting of Notes—Critical, Homiletic, and Illustrative—on the Holy Scriptures; forming a Complete Commentary on an Original Plan, specially designed for Ministers, Bible Students, and Sunday-School Teachers. By the Rev. JAMES COMPER GRAY, Author of "Topics for Teachers," &c., &c.

PLAN of the WORK.

Each Verse is explained by Notes in the following order:—

1. NOTES CRITICAL, in which the original is explained; and both the letter and the spirit of the Word have a brief but careful elucidation.
2. NOTES HOMILETIC. Original and Selected, in which are suggested the subjects of Sermons for the Preacher and of Lessons for the Teacher, that may appropriately be founded on the words of the text.
3. NOTES ILLUSTRATIVE, containing one or more anecdotes, or an illustrative quotation from some standard author. This part of the commentary is a new and most valuable feature. The Museum of anecdote and quotation here collected will form the most complete body of illustration of Scripture ever compiled.
4. NOTES MARGINAL, containing notes—1. CHRONOLOGICAL; in which the date of each event is given. 2. ANALYTICAL; wherein a clue is furnished to the contents of the page; and a digest or summary of a chapter may at once be seen. 3. BIBLICAL; supplying not only the ordinary references, but references, also, to other texts of Scripture, in the notes on which the reader will find illustrations of the subject under consideration. 4. LITERARY; as names of authors quoted in the comment, and other useful matter.

No work has yet appeared which presents in so compact and comprehensive a form the many essential features which constitute a complete commentary. The first volume will comprise the Gospels according to St. Matthew and St. Mark, and will be completed in Twelve Monthly Parts.

A Specimen Page and Full Prospectus will be sent Free for a Halfpenny Stamp.

Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster-row, London, E.C.

THE WEEKLY OFFERING.

The Publications connected with the Weekly Offering system and also Church matters, hitherto issued by Mr. Freeman, of Fleet-street, are now published by

Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster-row, London, E.C.

Just published, price 1s. 6d. post free.

THE ENTIRE EVIDENCE of EVANGELISTS and APOSTLES on FUTURE PUNISHMENT. with Notes on the Teaching of Dr. Angus and others. By W. GRIFFITH.

"The production of one who has thought much and thoughtfully on the subject of which it treats, and the result to which he has come is worthy of a hearing."—Christian Times.

Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster-row, London, E.C.

Now ready, post 8vo, cloth, price 6s., post free,

THE MORNINGTON LECTURE. By the Rev. T. T. LENCU.

"For freshness, poetic beauty, elevated thought, devout feeling, and nervous lucid diction, we know not what can be compared with these Lectures. Every fresh perusal only serves to discover new beauties, and deeper, grander Truths."—Forward.

Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster-row, London, E.C.

HANDSOME ILLUSTRATED GIFT BOOKS.—Now ready, THE LEISURE HOUR and SUNDAY AT HOME Volumes for 1870. Cloth boards, 7s.; gilt elegant, 8s. 6d.; half calf, 10s.

SCHOOL PRIZES.—The LEISURE HOUR and SUNDAY AT HOME Vols. for 1870 will be found full of interest for the Young.

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.—"Each succeeding volume appears to be better than its predecessor—fuller of life, of variety, and of instruction; always interesting, and never dull."—The Book-seller.

LIBRARY READING.—The LEISURE HOUR and SUNDAY AT HOME Volumes, just published, are admirably adapted for Parochial, Congregational, and Working Men's Libraries.

LEISURE HOUR VOLUME for 1870 contains 848 imp. 8vo pages of letterpress, and a large number of superior Engravings, besides 12 Illustrations in Colours or on Toned Paper. Among the literary contents are—The House of De Valdez, a Spanish Tale, by Frances Browne; The Clackitts of Inglebrook Hall, by Mrs. Prosser; The Natural History of Dress; Gossip about Notable Books, by John Timbs; Pompeii, by Howard Hopley; Cambridge and its Colleges, by Rev. F. Arnold; &c., &c.

SUNDAY AT HOME VOLUME for 1870, consisting of 848 pages, has an abundance of Illustrations by eminent artists; and, in addition to a vast amount of profitable Sunday Reading, includes two interesting Tales—Within Sea Walls, or, How the Dutch Won Freedom and Kept the Faith; and, The Mountain Farm, by the Rev. F. Arnold. Also, Scenes in the Life of Chrysostom, by Dr. Merle D'Aubigne; What was done in St. Thomas, Edited by Mary Howitt; and Cousin Mabel's Note-book, by Miss Whately.

London: 56, Paternoster-row, and 164, Piccadilly.

Now ready, post 8vo, 6s. 6d., cloth,

MEMORIES of PATMOS; or, Some of the Great Words and Visions of the Apocalypse. By the Rev. J. R. MACDOFF, D.D., Author of "Memories of Bethany," &c., &c.

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

Now ready, small crown 8vo, 5s., cloth,

MOSES the MAN of GOD: a Series of Lectures by the late JAMES HAMILTON, D.D.

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

Now ready, small crown 8vo, 5s.; cloth boards, 2s. 6d., limp,

PLEASANT FRUITS from the COTTAGE and the CLASS. By MARIA V. G. HAVERGAL.

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

Immediately, square 16mo, 2s. 6d., cloth,

LITTLE ELSIE'S SUMMER at MALVERN By the Hon. Mrs. CLIFFORD-BUTLER.

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

Just published, crown 8vo, 5s., cloth,

THE FLOATING LIGHT of the GOODWIN SANDS. By R. M. BALLANTYNE, Author of "The Lifeboat," &c. With Illustrations.

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

Just published, small crown 8vo, 2s., cloth limp,

TOILING in ROWING: Half-hours of Earnest converse with my Hardworking Friends. By one who knows and loves them.

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

Just published, with Illustrations, 16mo, 2s. 6d., cloth,

LOVE FULFILLING the LAW: Stories on the Commandments.

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

Just published, with Illustrations, small crown 8vo, 2s. 6d., cloth,

FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH; or, Susine and Claude of the Val Pelice. By ANNA CAROLINA DI TERGOLINA.

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

New Edition, small crown 8vo, 3s. 6d., cloth,

HYMNS of the CHURCH MILITANT. Edited by the Author of "The Wide, Wide World," &c. (New Volume of the SELECT SERIES.)

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

Just published, 16mo, with Illustrations, cloth,

NEW VOLUME of NISBET'S EIGHTEENPENNY JUVENILE SERIES:—

1. GLEN ISLA.
2. LUCY SEYMOUR.
3. LOUISA MORETON.
4. LITTLE NELLIE.
5. THE WILMOT FAMILY.
6. ROWING in TEARS.
7. BESSIE on her TRAVELS.

London: James Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, W.

CROSSE AND BLACKWELL'S

TABLE JELLIES AND CREAMS,

IN PINT AND QUART BOTTLES,

READY FOR IMMEDIATE USE.

CALVES' FEET, ORANGE, LEMON, NOYEAU, MADEIRA, VANILLA, ETC.

Retail of all Grocers and Italian Warehousemen; Wholesale, of the Manufacturers.

CROSSE AND BLACKWELL,

PURVEYORS TO HER MAJESTY,

SOHO-SQUARE, LONDON.

Published by ARTHUR MIALL, at No. 18, Boulevard-street, London; and Printed by ROBERT KINGSTON BURT, Wine-office-court, Fleet-street, London. — Wednesday, December 7, 1870.